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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 27, 1874. NO. 142.

FIRST EDITION

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Act for Homœopathic Insane Asylum.

Passage of Corporation Indebtedness Bill.

Compensation Discussed in the Senate.

Usury Bill Indefinitely Postponed by the House.

Change of Venue in Civil and Criminal Cases.

Coal Commissioners' Bill Passed.

HARRISBURG, February 26, 1874.

SENATE.

The following bills were read in place:

By Mr. Rutan, for creating new counties.

By Mr. McClure, for regulating the enactment of ordinances in cities.

By Mr. Heilman, for the establishment of a State Homœopathic Insane Asylum. Also an appropriation for the same.

The act to provide for the manner of increasing the capital stock and indebtedness of corporations passed.

The Senate act dispensing with jury trial after amendment, by unanimous consent, was lost.

The compensation bill came up and occupied the rest of the hour.

HOUSE.

The usury law was indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Newmyer said that he had made his record on this question last winter, and as he believed the measure to be a just and proper one, he saw no reason to change his views, however much he condemned the outrageous and disgraceful action of other parties for whose conduct he was not responsible.

The bill for change of venue in civil and criminal cases passed to third reading.

When the tax on corporations came up, Mr. Christy made an ineffectual attempt to exempt the Monongahela Slackwater from some of its stringent requirements.

The constitutional advertising bill was made the special order for this day week.

Mr. Newmyer's Coal Commissioner bill was passed finally.

This afternoon the hall of the House was given up to the Legislative reunion.

Judge Black of Lancaster, is expected to make an argument in behalf of temperance tonight, before the House Committee.

[Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 25, 1874.

The telegraphic reporter for the Pittsburgh papers of the proceedings of the Legislature, seems either incapable of or unwilling to report the proceedings correctly or intelligibly. In the papers received to-day, giving Tuesday's proceedings, I find the following paragraph relative to proceedings in the House on the Judicial Salary bill:

"Mr. McCormick gave notice that he would oppose the new Judicial Apportionment bill, which gives Indiana, Westmoreland and other counties separate judges, as long as the members from those counties opposed a decent salary for the city judges. This seemed to bring the stock shavers to a realizing sense, and the bill went over on third reading."

If this means anything, it means that the threat of Mr. McCormick was successful in debating or postponing the bill; while, in fact, the bill passed third reading by a vote of 54 to 6, and went over on final passage solely because the Constitution requires that amendments made to bills shall be printed before the final vote is taken. This fact is very carefully suppressed by the reporter.

And what does he mean by "stock shavers?" Messrs. Ramey, Cross and others, who have stood up firmly against an increase of salaries, are not "stock shavers," nor shavers of any kind; and the fling at them, whatever it may mean, is as unjust as untrue.

Mr. Ramey very properly called the attention of the House, to-day, to this deficient and untrue report, and there is a very general indignation among Western men, to-day, that the telegraphic reports to the Pittsburgh press are not only astonishingly meagre, but totally unreliable, and, as in this particular instance, grossly unfair.

The vote in the House, on Tuesday, on the amendment to tax bituminous coal the same as anthracite coal, three cents per ton, was a close one, 33 to 35; but the House was not all. The point made against it was that the production of anthracite coal is confined exclusively to Pennsylvania, while bituminous coal is produced by Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland and other States, and a tax on it would give just that much advantage to the out-side producers. There is no competition against the anthracite men, while there is a very brisk competition between the Pennsylvania producers of bituminous coal and the producers of other States, and to tax the former would benefit only the latter.

Mr. Mitchell's amendment to the bill to pay for publishing the Constitution has not been correctly represented. His amendment provides that those papers which were authorized by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to publish the Constitution shall be paid at the regular advertising rates, and that those which were *not* so authorized, and yet published it, shall be paid at two cents per copy for each insertion.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Humphreys read bill in place relative to suits for wages, and preventing stay of execution on judgments for the same.

Senate bill No. 38, to provide for the manner of increasing the capital stock and indebtedness of corporations, was amended and laid over. It will pass to-morrow (Thursday).

Senate bill No. 47, to provide for the submission of civil cases, by agreement of the parties, to the court, and dispensing with trial by jury, came up on third reading, and Mr. Wallace moved to go into Committee of the Whole to insert an amendment excepting cases in which either of the parties is acting in a representative or fiduciary capacity, thus confining the bill to suits between parties agreeing in proper person to the submission.

A long and interesting discussion followed, Messrs. Albright, Fitch and White arguing that the constitutional provision in the matter applied to "parties to a civil suit in *any* case," and the bill should, therefore, apply to all, without exception, and Messrs. Wallace, Dill, Hechtel and others arguing that the word "parties" used in the Constitution applied only to parties appearing in proper person in court, and administrators, trustees, guardians and others acting in a representative capacity, were not properly included in the term. It was urged, also, that the rights of those interested in trusts could be better protected by trial by jury, in cases in which the facts are disputed.

The vote on the motion was 15 to 5—a very decided one, and the amendment was accordingly incorporated in the bill; but the amendment renders a postponement necessary, until to-morrow, in order to have it printed.

Senate bill No. 58, to divide the 8th Normal School district and form a new one to be known as the 13th, passed finally, as did bill No. 56, limiting the time in which inquisitions of lunacy and habitual drunkenness may be traversed, and both bills go to the House. The bill to fix the pay of the members and officers of the Legislature then came up as unfinished business and occupied the remaining time until adjournment. During the discussion Mr. Rutan intimated that he would, when Mr. McKinley's amendment was disposed of, offer a clause fixing December 1, 1874, as the time for the pending bill to go into effect, thus making it apply exclusively to *future* Legislatures, and leave the question of pay for the *present* session to be fixed in the appropriation bill, as heretofore. This seemed to command general assent, and will probably prevail.

In the House, the vote by which bill No. 21, authorizing water companies to collect water rents as the cities do, was yesterday defeated, was reconsidered, and the bill passed first reading.

Senate bill No. 4, relative to contracts for supplies to the Departments and Legislature, House bill No. 11, relative to entailments, and the Judicial Salary bill, all passed finally.

The following bills were read the first time and disposed of as stated:

House bill No. 48, an act to provide for the collection of taxes in the several counties of this Commonwealth.

House bill No. 42, an act to provide for the election of Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Jones (Potter) moved to amend by making the salary of the Lieutenant Governor $1,500, instead of $5,000.

Mr. Brockway moved to amend the amendment by making the salary $2,000. Not agreed to—yeas, 33; nays, 46.

Mr. Baird moved to amend by making the salary $3,000. Agreed to—yeas 59, nays 23.

House bill No. 43, an act to define the necessary expenses incident to the nomination and election of Senators, Representatives, State, judicial and county officers, and to authorize the payment thereof. Amended and passed first reading.

House bill No. 56, an act to provide for lawful increase of the debt of any county, city, borough, township, school district or other municipality or incorporated district.

Mr. Reyburn moved to amend by limiting the interest on the bonds authorized to be issued under the act to six per cent. instead of eight per centum. Agreed to, and the bill went over.

At the afternoon session of the House, bills were taken up and passed first reading, as follows:

No. 45, to provide for change of venue in certain cases.

Bills Nos. 49, 50, 52, 53, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 62—appropriation bills—for the support of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, and for the deficiency in the Deaf and Dumb Institution, Philadelphia.

For the Pennsylvania Lunatic Hospital, Harrisburg.

For the Western Pennsylvania Hospital, Dixmont.

For the Northern District Hospital, Danville.

For the Pennsylvania Training School for feeble minded children.

For the Western Penitentiary.

For the Eastern Penitentiary.

For the House of Refuge, Philadelphia.

For the Pennsylvania Reform School, Pittsburgh.

For the Philadelphia Society for alleviating the miseries of public prisons.

For the Orthopœdic Hospital, Philadelphia.

All these, according to the new Constitution, have to be passed in separate bills, instead of being put in the general Appropriation bill, as heretofore.

No. 32, Joint resolution instructing our Senators and requesting our Representatives in Congress to vote for and support Senate bill No. 292, making appropriations for arming and equipping the militia of the United States and for other purposes, was voted down in Committee of the Whole.

On the question of agreeing to the report of the Committee of the Whole, a motion was made to postpone the consideration of the report of the committee, which was agreed to.

Bill 35. An act to provide for submitting questions of fact to the courts in the trial of civil cases.

No. 37. An act to fix the standard weight of bark.

No. 34. An act authorizing county commissioners and supervisors and auditors of townships to purchase implements for making and repairing roads. Negatived.

No. 39. An act giving a bounty on fox scalps in the several counties of this Commonwealth.

No. 40. An act for the abandonment and discontinuance of the use and possession of the State powder magazine in the city of Philadelphia.

No. 44. An act to provide for the safety of the public, and the better protection of the lives and property of persons crossing railway tracks.

This bill provides for the appointment of watchmen at such railroad crossings in any township, borough, or city in which the proper authorities shall make an affidavit setting forth that a watchman at such crossings is necessary for the protection of persons and property. The court on the presentation of such affidavit shall grant a rule on the President, Secretary or other officer of such railroad company to appear and show cause why such watchman shall not be appointed by such company, and if upon the hearing the court shall decide that such watchman shall be appointed and in cases where the said officers shall refuse or neglect to comply with the order of the court, and any person or persons shall be injured or killed at such crossings by the employees of said company in conducting the business of the company, such officers shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall upon conviction be imprisoned not more than —— and pay to the families injured or killed a sum not exceeding $2,000, or either or both at the discretion of the court.

From this list, the House may be considered as having fairly got to work. The calendar was gone through, on first reading, and the House now has abundant work cut out for it, in attending to the further progress of these bills.

The College Presidents had the use of the Senate Chamber, to-night, to demonstrate the difficult problem that the Constitution does not mean what it says on the subject of taxation. Sympathize with these gentlemen, in the unpleasant predicament in which they are placed by the terms of the new Constitution, but facts are such stubborn things that it is impossible to make them yield. I think colleges *ought*, in justice, to be free from taxation but the fundamental law is inexorable in prohibiting it. The opponents of the new Constitution pointed out this very difficulty, while that instrument was before the people, and the people, knowing that the taxation of colleges would result from its adoption, voted for it and established it. The hardship is a terrible one, and the unfairness is plain and palpable; but no tricks of construction can change the plain meaning of the Constitution, and the vast amount of eloquent pleading prevent the falling of the heavy hand of the tax collector upon institutions that, by every consideration of fairness and equity, should be exempt.

The "old roosters," as the irreverent boys of this age call them—the old fellows who were members here a quarter of a century ago—are beginning to gather to do the reunion which occurs to-morrow. They are a venerable lot of men, all that I have seen, and they will, doubtless, have a pleasant time fighting their old battles over again. SPECIAL.

TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN.

Mount Vernon, Ohio—Prohibition State Ticket.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MOUNT VERNON, O., February 26, 1874.

The Prohibition State Convention met here to-day. The attendance was slim, and little or no enthusiasm was manifested. The Convention placed in nomination the following State ticket for next fall: For Secretary of State, John R. Buchtal, of Summit county; for Clerk of the Supreme Court, S. B. Foster, of Logan; for School Commissioner, D. M. Weddell, of Montgomery; for Board of Public Works, E. G. Collins, of Hocking; for Supreme Judge, G. L. Stewart, of Loraine. The lady crusaders have made no new conquests during the last two days.

Plymouth, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PLYMOUTH, O., February 26, 1874.

The women's temperance artillery has fairly opened on the saloons in this place. Terms of capitulation on the part of the besieged are reported as being prepared, and to be presented for consideration at a meeting to be held this evening in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Piqua, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PIQUA, O., February 26, 1874.

The women crusaders have confined their prayers and songs to-day to two places, the City Hotel and Louis Schmidt's saloon. There are no concessions other than the four already reported.

Dayton.

DAYTON, O., February 26.—The women continue their prayer meeting with the usual spirit. The Advising Committee took legal advice to-day, and, it is rumored, concluded for the present against street prayers, in consequence of the stringent ordinance against obstructing the streets, thus subjecting them to fine, on complaint of any aggrieved party. Several committees of two each visited some saloons and druggists with pledges. Only one druggist, and none of the saloonists signed. The ladies may yet conclude to test the ordinance. The saloonists have unquestionably agreed upon a mutual plan for self-protection.

New York.

NEW YORK, February 26.—A number of the women engaged in the temperance cause falling to secure the Theater Comique for Sunday evening meetings, called at a well known saloon on Houston street yesterday with the view of obtaining the use of the theater attached. Proprietor Hill was not in at the time, but on his return was informed of the visit, when he wrote a letter addressed to the public, in which he says: "The echoes of the great temperance movement in Ohio have reached me, and as a humble but still sympathetic member of the community, I heartily join and will substantially aid in disseminating the principles of temperance, so little known, appreciated and practiced in our midst." Harry has placed his theater, according to the letter, at the disposal of the temperance women for Sunday evening. It is now well patronized as a variety and dance shop.

Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, February 26.—The Roman Catholic Total Abstinence Union, of this city, had a grand demonstration at the Academy of Music last evening. The building was crowded with a large number of clergy and laymen, together with many Protestants on the stage. The exercises consisted of addresses, music, and the reading of encouraging letters from Bishops throughout the country.

Jeffersonville, Ind.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., Feoruary 26.—About fifty ladies of the Temperance Union continue revisiting the saloons day after day. They sing their hymns and pray earnestly at each saloon. Some few close their doors against them, and services are held in the street. They are out early and late without any apparent fear of defeat. Mrs. Hunt, a Quakeress from Indianapolis, arrived to-day, and Mrs. Tolbert, of Dublin, arrives to-morrow to encourage and assist in the work. Though they have not yet succeeded in getting a single saloon keeper to sign the pledge, they feel that they are creating a healthy moral sentiment that will bear fruit by and by.

Ohio Constitutional Convention.

CINCINNATI, February 26.—In the Constitutional Convention, the Committe on Accounts and Expenses reported that the cost per capita of stationary since the Convention first met has been about forty dollars, and the total cost, four thousand. The committee also gave an itemized comparison of the cost as charged by the Secretary of State with what the cost would have been had the proposition of the State powder magazine in the city of Philadelphia. The showing was that one thousand five hundred and thirty dollars would have been saved. Certified copies were ordered to be sent to both Houses of the General Assembly. The report caused much excitement.

Indian Expedition from Fort Clark.

GALVESTON, February 26.—A *News*, Sherman, special says a private letter from Fort Clark, of the 20th, says: The expedition that leaves here to-morrow has been fitted out for a month. Four companies have already started, and three are following, including fifty Seminole and Tonkawsana scouts, guides and interpreters. Their exact destination is unknown, but as the Indians are quitting Mexico in formidable numbers and gathering on the Pecos, it is thought the movement will be upon villages some three hundred miles from here. The reinforcements will only follow McKenzie's trail and see but little of what is going on. The pack trains carry fifteen days' rations.

LEGISLATIVE REUNION,

Interesting Meeting Yesterday in Harrisburg.

Reminiscences of Half a Century.

Address of Hon. T. J. Bigham.

Letter from Walter Craig, of Washington County.

Banquet at the Kirkwood House

Special to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 26, 1874.

At three o'clock old ex-members of the Legislature met in the Hall of the House of Representatives. Hendrick B. Wright, being the oldest ex-Speaker present, was called to the chair.

Mr. Wright said: It affords me much satisfaction to be present with you. I cannot say that it is any part of my duty to return you any thanks, for it seems I am your presiding officer by a sort of divine right, as the oldest Speaker present. I can therefore afford to be a little independent. [Laughter.] I understood there were three or four ahead of me, and I do not come prepared. More than a third of a century ago I occupied this chair. When I look at my list of committees, I find Judge Sharswood was chairman of estates and escheats, Judge William Elwell was chairman of the Judiciary, Judge Graham chairman of Finance and Asa Packer chairman of Accounts, and it was here, he received that schooling which afterwards made him the wealthiest man in the land. William Jack, of Hollidaysburg, was chief secretary, and his assistants Daniel Kane, Jacob Zeigler and others.

The Hon. Thomas J. Bigham, Chairman of the General Committee, before moving the permanent organization, said:

Fellow-members of the Legislature and Executive Department prior to 1850—The project of a Legislative Reunion was first broached to me some three years ago. One year ago it took such complexion as to name myself and chairman and my brother Pomeroy as Secretary. Upon setting to work to arrange for such a reunion, we found ourselves hampered for time, and, therefore, agreed to postpone the consideration of the project until 1874. Up to that time the design was to limit (after the example of many of our colleges) the invitations to those who had been members about a quarter of a century preceding. It was first suggested that we should include the entire decade from 1840 to 1850; but upon mature reflection, this being the first of the kind, we concluded to invite all the surviving members and the Executive Departments prior to 1850 to meet with us at this day and hour in the chamber we last occupied. Therefore, for one, I rejoice that this reunion has been extended and that so many survivors have met. The adoption of a new Constitution has rendered this an epoch in the history of Pennsylvania. In a little under two hundred years since the act of the Royal Charter, our grand old Commonwealth has outlived the colonial and three State Constitutions. Now our late convention has produced and the people have ratified, for our fundamental law, a Constitution whose unprecedented length I hope will be even surpassed by its still more profound statesmanship. May the deliberate judgment of Pennsylvania, assembled one hundred years hence, ratify the extravagant claim set up by some of its makers that this is the best Constitution ever founded by man. In looking over our list of Legislative brothers, we find one still living whose birthday reaches nearly to the fountain of our first State Constitution in 1776, the Hon. Walter Craig, of Washington county, now in his ninety-fifth year. Before he lived twelve years of the first, forty-eight under the Constitution of 1790, thirty-five under that of 1838, and long may he live under that of 1874. Benevolence is a common emblem of human life, while Constitutions are supposed to be as enduring as our mountains; yet here is one of own members who, even in slow Pennsylvania, has outlived three of our State Constitutions, and has now entered upon a new race with the fourth. Probably thirty more of our members first had the light in the last century, and have already completed, or will shortly complete their four-score years. The mass of us, however, are active boys from fifty to seventy-four years of age, and looking forward to the indefinite future when we shall reach the respectable ages of Dr. Sturgeon and Walter Craig.

Your committee have procured the names of two hundred and twenty legislative and executive worthies still living, I have no doubt a number of others equally worthy were not found), who did credit to their station in an age when such official positions were the synonym of honor and integrity. We congratulate you, fellow members, that so many have been spared to reassemble in this chamber, on this day and at this hour. Our object is a social reunion, irrespective of past or present political associations. We meet eye to eye, hand to hand, and heart to heart, to revive the friendships of a former generation. Let us reverently unite in breathing a sigh and dropping a tear to the memory of our departed associates whose honored graves may be found in every churchyard in the land. Tread lightly upon their sacred dust! Bright be the flowers and green the grass that covers their graves. Our old gray old Commonwealth, mother of us all, is slowly and surely moving onward to her destined position as the Empire State of our glorious Union. May her sons ever be found foremost in enterprise, first in intelligence, and, above all, most noted for their private and public virtues.

Letter from Hon. Walter Craig, of Washington county member of the session of 1819:

Gentlemen of the Committee—Your invitation received, &c. * * * I would be much pleased to meet all my legislative companions yet alive, especially those of the sessions of 1817, 1818 and 1819. The infirmities of old age are upon me and I cannot, Mayhap injury go from home in the winter. I take this occasion to congratulate you, brethren, on the present and future prospects of our whole country, where peace and prosperity, civil and religious liberty are guaranteed to all, and when men opposed to each other in party politics can cordially unite in social parties, thus binding more closely the ties of fraternal brotherhood. I am not flatter ourselves that the government will always act for the interest of the people. And while I may practice fraud and bribery to get control of the government and rob the people, by strong political parties, free speech and a free press will be necessary to keep the government in good running order. The party out of power will detect and expose the plunder and misdemeanors of the party in power, by which the mass of the people, who are sovereigns, will be schooled and enlightened in the principles of government. * * *

I wish the many old friends may have a happy meeting on the 26th, and that we may all have a joyful reunion when the Great Master shall call us to order in the world above.

WALTER CRAIG.

Another letter was read from the venerable ex-United States Senator Daniel Sturgeon, of Uniontown.

Speeches were made by Violette Oliphant, Judge Parsons, John M. Orr, Jacob Zeigler, Mr. Little, of Wyoming, Mr. Cochran, of York, and Mr. Williamson, of Huntingdon. A banquet at the Kirkwood House concluded the reunion. The 30th of February, 1879, at Harrisburg, was fixed for the next meeting.

CRIMES.

Bit off his Uncle's Ear.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FOREST, O., February 26, 1874.

David Scothorn, a young man arrested some time since, tried and bound over to court in the sum of five hundred dollars for the forging of a note on his grandfather, Mr. Gleck, and who was boarding at the Scott House, had an altercation with his uncle, Mr. Gleck, this afternoon. The trouble grew out of a previous difficulty between Scothorn and his grandfather. Before they could be separated, Scothorn bit Gleck's ear entirely off, and then tried to make his escape, but was found concealed in the cellar of the Scott House, where he was captured. The trial is continued for hearing Friday afternoon at five o'clock.

Charged with Car Breaking.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ZANESVILLE, O., February 26, 1874.

Christopher Brenan and William Casey, were arraigned before the Court, to-day, charged with car breaking, and in default of bail were sent to jail.

Arrest of an Escaped Burglar.

PHILADELPHIA, February 26.—The detectives have arrested Francis H. Carter, alias "Big Frank," prominent among the bank burglars who escaped from the New Castle jail.

A Safe Deliverance.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 26.—St. Clair arrested for arson, in having set fire to Portland, Oregon, on the second of August last, has been acquitted. He proved he was thirty-five miles away at the time of the fire.

Diabolical Attempts to Burn School House.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., February 26.—This forenoon fire was started by an unknown man under the second story stairs in public school house No. 12. The flames were discovered in time to permit their suppression before damage was done. Three hundred children in the upper rooms would have been cut off from escape except by the windows, if the flames had progressed far. Number five public school house was set on fire Tuesday.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 26, 1874.

TRIAL OF JAMES C. KING.

James C. King, who shot Anthony F. O'Neil on the afternoon of November 18, 1872, was placed on trial to-day on a charge of murder. O'Neil was a friend of and witness for Mrs. King, in a suit for divorce. The trial of King has been delayed owing to his complete prostration betimes from consumption.

ERIE STRIKE ENDED.

The officers of the Erie Railroad announce that the strike is at an end, and the men have returned to work. Word has been sent to agents West to resume the sale of tickets.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

CAMERON'S CENTENNIAL BILL

Its Consideration by the Senate To-day.

Indications of its Passage.

Three Millions Asked of the Government.

Defeat of the Franking Bill by Two Votes.

Indian Appropriation Bill Prepared.

Relief of Ex-Collector Thomas, of Philadelphia.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 26, 1874.

The Indian Appropriation Bill

was finally disposed of by the committee this morning and will be reported by Judge Loughridge to-morrow, if an opportunity offers. The committee have decided to retain all the provisions to which the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs objected in their hearing yesterday. The committee are of the opinion that the increased powers conferred upon the Board of Indian Commissioners will serve as a wholesome check upon the Indian office and put an end to many extravagances which have hitherto been practiced without restraint. Another important feature in the bill is the specific provisions for the control of the disbursement of appropriations for the benefit of Indian agencies. The bill establishes a maximum salary for each agency and also designates the maximum to be allowed for white employees. At present the larger share of the amount designed for the Indians is consumed in salaries of employees unauthorized by law. The other features of the bill are as already stated in these dispatches. The bill also cuts down the contingent fund of the Indian office from fifty to thirty thousand dollars.

The Pension Bill,

which appropriates thirty millions, will not be taken up by the committee, according to their present programme.

The Centennial Bill.

Senator Cameron this morning made a motion to take up the Centennial bill. After some opposition by Messrs. Sumner and Thurman, the motion was lost by five votes, a number of the friends of the measure being absent. After the Naval Appropriation bill was disposed of, Senator Scott moved to take the bill up, which was agreed to, and it was made the unfinished business for to-morrow. It will lead to a spirited debate. From present indications the bill will pass. A bill has been prepared, and will be submitted at an early day, making an appropriation of three-eighths of the total amount required for the carrying out of the exhibition, the government subscription not to be advanced until subscriptory evidence has been given that the remaining five-eighths have been taken up in *bona fide* private subscriptions, the government money also to be insured under the supervision of its own officers. The amount expected from the government is fixed at three millions.

The Franking Bill

has been defeated by the close vote of 129 to 131. A vote taken showed that there were forty-nine members in favor of the absolute restoration of the privilege, thirty of whom represent Southern constituencies. Messrs. Averill, of Minnesota, Barber, of Wisconsin, Eldridge, of Wisconsin, Hamlin, of Michigan, Hubbell, of Michigan, and Shanks, of Indiana, who represent districts in the Western States, not having the fear of the Grangers before their eyes, voted to restore the privilege. After the roll call had been completed, and on the vote to pass the bill, the yeas were 118 and the nays 109, but members who did not hear their names called subsequently voted, and quite a number of gentlemen changed their votes. There was the greatest excitement on the floor while this was going on, the advocates and opponents of the bill vieing with each other in their efforts to secure votes for the side they favored respectively; but the defeat of the bill could not be prevented. It is now finally disposed of, as there is pending a motion to reconsider, which under the rules may be called up at any time. An examination of the vote in detail shows that it was neither partisan nor sectional on either side. Many voted against the bill, because, in their opinion, it did not go far enough, for among the negative votes will be found associates who would have voted a few moments previously, voted for an absolute restoration of the franking privilege, and who hope yet to see it restored.

Tax on Gold Watches.

The Committee on Ways and Means this morning agreed upon a bill making the tax on imported still wines at the rate of fifty cents per gallon in casks, and two dollars per case in bottles. This action makes the tax purely specific, instead of specific and ad valorem as now.

Relief of Collector Thomas.

The Committee also agreed to report favorably a bill presented by Mr. Ellis H. Roberts, of New York, for the relief of Thomas, Collector of the port of Philadelphia during the war. It seems that the cashier of the office, during Mr. Thomas' term, defaulted to the amount of $32,000. Mr. Thomas promptly paid the amount out of his own pocket, thinking he was perfectly safe in so doing, considering the much more publicity than actually necessary to the affair. The late panic, however, left Mr. Thomas in a crippled condition, and he consequently feels justified in asking relief on this account.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 26, 1874.

THE SIMMONS NOMINATION.

The Senate Committee on Commerce to-day referred the nomination of Simmons to be Collector of Boston, to Mr. Boutwell, as a subcommittee.

POSTAL TELEGRAPHS AND POST ROADS.

The Senate Committee on Postoffices and Post roads to-day made further progress with the postal telegraph bill, and agreed to amend it in various minor particulars suggested by arguments of Messrs. Orton and Hubbard.—The committee voted to report adversely on Senator Hitchcock's bill proposing to vest in the Postmaster General the power of establishing post roads. The committee are of the opinion that this power cannot constitutionally be delegated by Congress to any other power.

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations, this morning decided to recommend to the Senate that they strike out the section of the appropriation bill as passed by the House, which provides for transferring to the Southern Claims Commission all claims from citizens of loyal States that are now pending in the Quartermaster and Commissary General's departments. They agreed, however, to the section which provide for conveying into the treasury the unexpended balances of appropriations made for these departments in former years, so that while claims remain where they are now, for adjustment, Congress shall resume control of the matter of providing from time to time for their payment.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., February 27, 1 A. M.

The barometer has fallen in the Middle and Eastern States and is lowest in Canada. It has fallen but risen again in the Southwest and Northwest. The temperature has risen throughout the Atlantic States, the Lake and Mississippi valley. Increasing southwesterly winds with cloudy weather prevail throughout the Lower Lake region, Middle and Eastern States, with snow in the former. Fresh and brisk easterly winds, with cloudy weather, or light rain, prevail on the Texas coast. Clear weather, with light northwest to southwest winds, prevail in the Upper Lake region and the Northeast.

PROBABILITIES FOR FRIDAY.

For the Middle Atlantic States, increasing southerly winds, falling barometer and threatening weather.

For New England and New York, falling barometer, southwesterly winds, cloudy weather and rain. For the South Atlantic and Gulf States, falling followed by rising barometer, winds shifting to northwest, with generally cloudy weather. For the Ohio valley and Northwest, rising barometer, somewhat lower temperature, partly cloudy and clear weather, with cool northwesterly winds. For the Lower Lake region, falling followed by rising barometer, winds turning to west and possibly northwest, with cloudy weather and light snow, generally clearing away by Friday night.

Pittsburgh Female College.

In an advertisement to be found elsewhere in this morning's COMMERCIAL, are set forth a few of the many advantages to be found by the students at the Pittsburgh Female College. Success, it is said, is the test of merit; and judged by this rule, the institution must certainly be one of the most meritorious of its class in all the land.

Cheese and Fish.

The largest stock of fish and the best New York Goshen cheese can be found at the Checkered Front. See advertisement. T. C. Jenkins.

XLIII. CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 26, 1874.

SENATE.

Mr. CAMERON presented a petition from citizens of Pennsylvania against the restoration of the tax on tea and coffee. Referred.

Mr. MERRIMON, from the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads, reported favorably on the bill amendatory of the fifteenth section of the act to revise, consolidate and amend the statutes of the Postoffice Department. Passed. The bill prescribes the form of oath to be taken by postoffice officials before entering upon the discharge of their duties.

Mr. SCHURZ presented a petition of the tobacco manufacturers in his State, asking for the abolition of the duty on stick liocrice. Referred.

The bill to provide for the appointment of a commission in regard to the alcoholic liquor traffic, was taken up, the question being on the amendment of Mr. Morrill, of Maine, appropriating $10,000 to defray the expenses of the commission.

Mr. FLANAGAN favored the bill. He believed the use of alcoholic liquors was the cause of the late split between the North and South.

Pending the discussion, Mr. THURMAN moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

Mr. WEST, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Army Appropriation bill, which was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

After a debate of an hour, the Senate refused to take up the Centennial bill by a vote of 28 nays to 23 yeas, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Alcorn, Bayard, Boreman, Buckingham, Cameron, Carpenter, Clayton, Fenton, Ferry, of Michigan, Frelinghuysen, Hamlin, Hitchcock, Logan, Merrimon, Mitchell, Morrill, of Vermont, Pease, Ramsey, Ransom, Robertson, Scott, Sherman and West —23.

NAYS—Messrs. Allison, Anthony, Bogy, Boutwell, Chandler, Conkling, Cooper, Davis, Ferry, of Connecticut, Flanagan, Goldthwaite, Hager, Hamilton, of Maryland, Hamilton, of Texas, Howe, Ingalls, McCreery, Morrill, of Maine, Norwood, Oglesby, Pratt, Sargent, Saulsbury, Stockton, Sumner, Thurman, Windom and Wright—28.

The Naval Appropriation bill was then taken up, and the amendments of the committee recurred to and the bill passed. The bill now goes back to the House for that body to concur in the Senate's amendments.

Mr. SCOTT moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the Centennial bill.

Mr. SUMNER said several Senators interested in that bill had left the chamber, supposing the naval bill would occupy all day. He suggested that if it be taken up it be laid aside until after the morning hour to-morrow. The suggestion was accepted and the bill taken up, laid over until that time.

Mr. THURMAN'S motion to proceed to the consideration of Executive business was then adopted, and the Senate went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.

The bill allowing the use of the unexpended balance of the appropriation for the construction of a branch mint at San Francisco passed.

The House then resumed consideration of the bill reviving the franking privilege. Speeches in its favor were made by Messrs. Danforth, Hereford, Dunnell, Conger, Burchard, O'Brien, Randall and Biery.

Mr. E. H. ROBERTS moved to lay the bill on the table. Negatived—yeas 118, nays 140.

Mr. POLAND moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday by which the main question was ordered.

Mr. RANDALL moved to lay that motion on the table. Agreed to—138 to 51.

A vote was then taken on the amendment reported by the committee, authorizing the Postmaster General to delay the transmission of documents whenever the welfare of the service shall so require, and it was rejected by an overwhelming majority.

A vote was then taken on the substitute offered by Mr. Hale, of New York, to repeal the law which abolished the franking privilege. The amendment was rejected—yeas 50, nays 199.

Those voting in the affirmative were, Messrs. Adams, Albert, Arthur, Averill, Barber, Bell, Butler of Massachusetts, Butler of Tennessee, Coutchfield, Eldridge, Farwell, Field, Freeman, Hagans, Hale of New York, Hancock, Harmer, Harris of Georgia, Hays, Herndon, Hersey, Houghton, Howe, Hubbell, Hynes, Kelley, Kendall, Lamar, Lalland, Maynard, McLean, Moore, Negley, Platt of Pennsylvania, Rapier, Rice, Ribbins, Sener, Shanks, Sheats, Sheldon, Sloss, Smith of Louisiana, Stowell, Strawbridge, Sypher, Vance, Wallace, Walls, and Wilshire—50.

A vote was then taken on the passage of the bill, and it was rejected—yeas 129, nays 131. At the close of the roll call, the vote being very close, there was a good deal of excitement among members, those who voted in favor of the bill going around discussing the question and canvassing for changes. The first change was by Mr. Todd, from "no" to "aye." It was followed by a similar change on the part of Mr. Clarke, of Missouri, while Messrs. Hubbell and Burleigh changed from "aye" to "no."

Mr. Butler, of Massachusetts, and Mr. Cessna having voted with the prevailing side, moved to reconsider the vote rejecting the bill, and afterwards withdrew the motion. It can be made, however, tomorrow.

The following is the vote in detail:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Albert, Albright, Arthur, Ashe, Averill, Barber, Begole, Bell, Biery, Bowen, Bright, Buckner, Burchard, Butler, of Tennessee, Caldwell, Cannon, Clark, of Missouri, Clymer, Cobb, of Kansas, Coburn, Comingo, Conger, Corwin, Crutchfield, Danford, Davis, of Virginia, Davis, of West Virginia, DeWitt, Donnan, Duell, Dunnell, Durham, Eldridge, Field, Freeman, Giddings, Glover, Gunckel, Hagans, Hale, of New York, Hamilton, Hancock, Harmer, Harris, of Georgia, Harrison, Hatcher, Havens, Hayes, Hazleton, of Wisconsin, Hereford, Herndon, Hersey, Houghton, Howe, Hunter, Hunton, Hurlbut, Hynes, Kendall, Killinger, Knapp, Lamar, Lampert, Lofland, Lowe, Magee, Marshall, Martin, Maynard, Mellish, of Wisconsin, McJunkin, McLean, Mills, Moore, Myers, Neal, Negley, Nesmith, Niblack, Nunn, O'Brien, Orr, Packer, Parker, of Missouri, Pelham, Perry, Phillips, Platt, of Virginia, Platt, of New York, Raney, Randall, Ransier, Rapier, Rowis, Ray,

The Daily Commercial.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1874.

THE nomination of SIMMONS still continues to agitate Boston. Every man, woman and child in that city has probably sent at least one dispatch to Washington favoring or opposing his confirmation.

IF THERE is any department of human culture in which the Washington *Republican* excels more than in another, it is the domain of *belles lettres*. That paper speaks of CHARLES KINGSLEY as the distinguished author of "Alvin Luke!"

THE unanimity of the press concerning the action of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts in reference to the right of women to act as members of School Boards, is remarkable. Not a single paper, so far as we have observed, disapproves of it.

"AN EXCHANGE declares that 'religion in the United States costs more than in any other country.' And we defy any other country to produce a poorer article."—*Brooklyn Argus.*

It is not well to generalize rashly. There is a wide stretch of country outside of New York and Brooklyn.

THE New York *Express* denies, with some show of indignation, that it is to change hands or become an organ of the administration. The *Express* is one of the most ably conducted journals in the country. Its compilations of current news and opinion are admirable, and its political tone moderate. It is to be congratulated on its thoroughly prosperous condition.

THE *Post* wants all persons convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary under the Ku-Klux laws, sat at liberty, upon the ground that if they are guilty the State, instead of the federal government, is the only authority that can properly punish them. Will the *Post* cite a single instance in which "the State authorities" have convicted and punished these cowardly robbers and assassins, even when their guilt has been established beyond question?

AND now let us hope that something practical may to-day be done in the Senate with regard to the Centennial Exposition. President GRANT'S Message on the subject has the right ring, and it will be a bitter humiliation if the petty provincial spirit which animates a portion of the members of Congress concerning this great national celebration shall be allowed to militate against its success—and that on a scale commensurate with the importance and grandeur of the occasion.

The Springfield *Republican* labors under a misapprehension. The election of Mr. STOKLEY as Mayor of Philadelphia is *not* "to be contested." If the Philadelphia *Press*, from which that paper quotes, really believes that a "thorough-going investigation would doubtless destroy MR. STOKLEY'S election altogether, why is the matter not carried into the courts? If the defeated "Reformers" have a case, all that they have to do is to make it out; and we say to them, "Leave off your damnable faces, and begin."

NOW WE know why Governor HENDRICKS, of Indiana, is "a Granger." An enthusiastic partisan of his has just made the rare philological discovery that his name indicates his agriculture origin: "Hend" meaning lay hold of, and "Ricks" meaning stacks of grain, while the two combined—Hendricks—means to get in the harvest and pile the grain into stacks. If, after this, the Patrons of Husbandry do not rise in a body to demand his nomination for the Presidential succession, there is no gratitude in man, and names are but empty voids.

IT IS to be hoped that the suggestion which the Senate Finance Committee have made to the Secretary of the Treasury, concerning the feasibility of making all officers of the government who handle money, give bonds, may be carried into operation by distinct acts. These defalcations on the part of irresponsible subordinates are becoming positively alarming as to their number and the amounts involved, and it is high time that some plan were adopted by which the government shall be secured against the dishonesty of these unfaithful servants.

THE NEWS from the theater of the Ashantee war is of a very conflicting character. The day before yesterday intelligence that the British forces had suffered a terrible defeat was received in England, while yesterday an official dispatch from Sir GARNET WOLSLEY, dated at the Ashantee capital, reached the British War office, announcing the entrance of the troops into that place, the promise of the King to visit the English commander immediately for the purpose of signing the treaty of peace, and the probable return of the army to the coast in a day or two. The inference is that the first report was either totally false or greatly exaggerated.

THE prevalent impression that the Judiciary Committee are nearly ready to report a bill for the distribution of the Geneva award, is erroneous. The matter was referred to a subcommittee, which has reported to the full committee. But the committee itself has not yet handled the subject, and it is open for future hearings of those interested. It is said that, so far as it has gone, it has to a large extent ignored the insurance companies' claims, and that the indications point directly to a continuance of such a disposition. It is not to be expected that the insurance companies will be left out in the cold without a struggle, and they are strong, but the disposition of both Houses is against them.

THE temperance movement has reached India. A monster memorial containing the signatures of between sixteen and seventeen thousand natives of that country was recently presented to the Viceroy. The petition states that the nation of India has hitherto been "always distinguished for habits of sobriety and absteminousness," and goes on to observe that "its ideas and principles have been lately unsettled by English education and aggressive civilization. It is a painful fact," it adds, "that among the higher and more educated classes, and in places long subject to British rule and the influence of Western refinement, the worst effects of temperance have been realized"—the satire of which simple presentation is as trenchant as its pathos is mournful.

OF THE holding of conventions and the formation of new parties there is no end. The latest-born organization is that of a "Co-operative Union of American Farmers and Mechanics," which is now holding its first convention in Chicago. The nature of the organization appears to be somewhat similar to that of the National Grange, although broader in its views and more liberal in its membership. The Grange excludes physicians, lawyers, editors and politicians, all of whom come under the fold of the "Union." In the next Presidential campaign they propose to combine with the National Grange and like organizations, and not to only elect that high official but to sweep everything before them. Of a verity, it is not for lack of machinery that matters sometimes go awry.

THE latest colonization proposition, which emanates from a colored citizen of Georgia, is to the effect that Congress shall, by money and the use of a government vessel, transport to the Republic of Liberia such members of his race in this country who want to transfer themselves and their fortunes to that. The scheme, which is said to find advocates, should not be entertained for a moment. The colored people of the United States are now as free as the whites, and it is time they began to cut themselves loose from the Government apron-string. Those of their number who are dissatisfied with our institutions and the opportunities they afford, have the privilege of leaving the country at any time. But they must do it at their own cost, not at the cost of the people.

THE fight among the railroad monopolies still rages. The difficulties which have beset the Union and Central Pacific Railways in their endeavors to maintain their position in the pro rata fight with the Chicago roads, are about to be increased in a few days by the action of the Kansas City, St. Joseph and Council Bluffs road, which forms the connecting link between Omaha and Kansas City in the route from San Francisco to New York via St. Louis. This Company will enter the first of March establish an enhanced local tariff and throw overboard the through rates it has hitherto been charging. The freight war which has for several months been in progress between the Baltimore and Ohio Railway and the Pennsylvania Company, is still prosecuted with determination on both sides, and appears to be no nearer to an adjustment than it was at the beginning.

THE Frankfort *Yeoman*, which claims to be the official organ of the Democratic party of Kentucky, asserts that "the whole intellect" of that party was assembled at the late Convention which nominated a rebel soldier for an important State office, avowedly on the ground of his rebellion record. There is to be no backing down, in any sense. The party will stand by the nomination and by the principles enunciated in the Convention. These Kentucky Bourbons are at least honest. They show us their hand boldly, and employ no mincing phrases whatever. They propose to honor men for having sought to destroy the nation, and on that issue the people are challenged. Who doubts that they would at once rebel again if they thought they saw a chance of success, or who is so blind as not to see that these leaders—outside of Kentucky as well as inside—are biding their time for the reassertion of the doctrine of secession, and the vindication of the "Lost Cause?"

WHICH WAY TO THE DUST?

A distinguished English physician, Dr. THOMPSON, has lately published a strong paper in favor of the cremation or burning of the dead, and there are indications that the proposition is received with favor in England by a good many people. The same subject began to be agitated in Italy some time ago, Professor BRUNETTI, of Padua, taking the lead and showing, or trying to show, how the burning of the dead body might be most economically and thoroughly effected. And now we learn that in Germany, also, the same method of getting the dead out of sight has become a subject of consideration. Professor REGLAM, of the University of Leipsig, who is besides a physician, recently made it the topic of a lecture before an industrial association in Halberstadt. He seems to have dwelt even more earnestly than Dr. THOMPSON on the sanitary aspect of the subject. From the ground on which they live and move, the living receive their nourishment both fluid and solid, and therefore it is no exaggeration to say that human character is, in some sense, dependent upon the soil. Every year, indeed every month adds to the accumulation of facts which prove the origin of disease, especially of many epidemics, in the water which people consume. By the burial of human bodies the ground is poisoned and the health of the living is constantly injured or imperilled. In fact, the sanitary relations of humation when followed out in detail become so apparent as to form a quite irresistible argument in favor of adopting some other mode of putting away the human remains.

A common objection to the method of cremation has been its expensiveness, as it is really very difficult, by mere burning, to reduce certain portions of the body to literal ashes. In India, where the Hindoos are commonly said to burn their dead, the poverty of the people and the scarcity of fuel render its actual performance impossible. The truth is, that generally them the bodies are merely scorched, and then flung into the nearest river, and when no river is near enough, they are left to be devoured by the carnivorous creatures with which the country literally swarms. The insects alone or the foul birds would suffice to consume all but the bones in a few hours. As to the bones of kindred, most Hindoos are careless, and those who feel sensitive on the subject, gather and bury them. Professor BAUNETTI seems to have been unsuccessful in his experiments in cremation. After burning for many hours, the bones remained unconsumed, and even when broken and again subjected to the fire, they remained in fragments.

Professor REGLAM proposes a method which would no doubt be found satisfactory. He suggests that the body be placed in a narrow, fire-proof receptacle within a fire-proof vault; that with the receptacle be connected a high chimney to carry off the gases and vapors evolved in burning, and that as soon as the body is placed in the chamber, strong streams of air raised to a white heat be brought to bear upon it. In the space of twenty minutes at most the Professor believes the body would be consumed and given to the atmosphere in the form of gas and vapor, leaving in the chamber a little mass of almost snow white ashes to be collected and deposited in an urn, or otherwise disposed of at the will of surviving friends. The cost of thus putting away a body would be more than two or three *thalers* even when the air currents had to be heated for each body, and not more than about fifteen thousand *thalers* would be required to erect the necessary building and apparatus.

We are aware that many persons may read such a statement with a shudder. Some may have decided objections, theological, ethical or merely sentimental, to the cremation of the dead. The former class we remind that the subject is undergoing discussion in different highly civilized countries, and is evidently destined to be forced on the attention of all. To those who on any grounds object to the method, we have only to say that we are not zealous advocates of the change. But we may also say that some of the most obvious objections vanish on a little reflection. The text which denounced ADAM'S return to the dust is verified in cremation not less clearly than by interring, as science makes plain, while the fact admitted that to the human sensibilities the rotund about way of making the journey seems less repulsive than the apparently though not really more direct road. We may also remind readers that towards the end of the republic cremation became general among the Romans; that it became universal under the empire, and that it continued to be practiced even by Christians until near the end of the fourth century. Doubtless it was gradually abolished by Christianity but for reasons which would not appear of any particular force to the Christians of the present day, unsupported by custom.

THE ASHANTEE WAR.

As we write, there seems little reason to doubt that a disaster has overtaken the English army in Western Africa. So much is evidently implied in the comments of the London press on the news received, that is, if the tone of the press comments is correctly represented in the cable dispatches. Coomassie, the Ashantee capital, near which place the battle was fought, is situated about a hundred and twenty miles nearly northwest of Cape Coast Castle. Between the two points the country is most difficult for troops, and presents excellent opportunities for attack on the part of native enemies emboldened by victory and outnumbering the foreigners thousands to one. Of course, the Fantees and other native allies of the British, of little account before, would be completely demoralized by the defeat, and, even if they did not take to their heels, would be able to render slight assistance. If the English have not suffered such a check as to make impossible an attempt to capture Coomassie at the appointed time, they could expect little if any aid from their black allies after the defeat. Hence, in either view of the calamity, the position of the English forces must be one of exceeding embarrassment and peril. And if it should result in irretrievable disaster, if so considerable a body of foreigners should be placed in the uncontrolled power of the savages of Ashantee, the consequences would be nothing less than horrible, atrocities to make the world shudder would in all probability be perpetrated. The skull of Sir C. MCCARTHY, commander of a former British expedition against the Ashantees, is still used as a drinking cup by their King on festive occasions. In fact, the tribe surpasses in ferocity all other African people, and their love of shedding human blood and inflicting sanguinary punishments amounts to a passion. This is among other ways exemplified in their mode of sacrificing human beings, which with them is not merely a religious rite, but a delightful social entertainment, combining the pleasures of piety with the amusement of a theatrical exhibition.

It is, however, after all, improbable that so able and experienced officers as those in charge of the expedition, failed, in their advance into the interior, to anticipate even defeat and to make provision for the rescue of survivors. Though liable to blunder into perilous situations in the beginning of a war, the English don't often make important mistakes afterwards. At first defeated by the Ashantees through contempt for their enemy's military qualities and resources, they organized the present expedition with the utmost care and foresight, and they are not likely to have exposed themselves to anything worse than a temporary check. Additional news will be waited for with painful anxiety by all English-speaking people.

A NEW religion has sprung up in Persia, and is so different from the old Mosiem faith that it is creating considerable excitement, especially as the Grand Vizier, who has great influence over the Shah, is in favor of it, and several of the savans and noblemen have adopted it. It is known as the "Zordani." Its followers do not believe in any prophet. They only worship the Almighty. There are no religious ceremonies stipulated for the new religion. The principal doctrines are praise of the Supreme Being, truth and virtue. It is regarded with great disfavor by the followers of the Mosiem faith.

THE diamond fever in South Africa is rapidly giving way to what is almost as bad, the gold fever. The value of the gold fields lately discovered is still a matter of uncertainty, the district having been little more than "scratched" as yet. About eight hundred diggers are now at work, and the gold thus far found is of fine quality and sells for from eighteen to twenty dollars per ounce at the diggings. But it requires a stout heart and a good constitution to get to the diggings, and with either of these one should be able to withstand all attacks of a gold fever, and escape the physical difficulties now to be found on all the roads leading to the new El Dorado.

A fossil Saurian has just been unearthed in Dakota. The skeleton measures eighteen feet in length, and if perfect would probably measure twenty-two feet. It is armed with paddles like the whale, has crocodilian head and jaws, conical teeth, and immense eye-holes.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Spurgeon has either got the gout, or the gout has got Spurgeon.

The favorite minister of the Khedive of Egypt is a Christian.

California now proposes to try its hand at suppressing "short sales" and usury.

Philadelphia capitalists have been building railroads in Maine and farther Down East.

Charles Kingsley wants an American to bury in Westminster Abbey. Take Forney.

It is proposed as an alternative, out West, if women's prayers do not stop the liquor traffic, to try women's votes.

A New York paper, probably contemplating its own speedy demise, is agitating the subject of cremation.

The question, "Is water intoxicating?" is to be submitted to the editor of the Louisville *Courier Journal* for solution.

Disraeli's Secretary for India, will have his hands full. He will have to feed about six million starving people in Bengal.

New Orleans papers are trying to gull the world into the belief that the gardens of that city are "oppressed with perfume."

Roumania is disgusted with the jury system, and has resolved to abolish it by a two-thirds vote of its legislative chamber.

An epigramatic gourmand says that "luck, skill and the will of the Lord must all combine for a first rate sugar cured ham."

Dr. Livingstone's death being conceded, England will have to look sharp or Germany will bear off the laurels of African exploration.

The Grangers of Illinois turn out to dig the graves of deceased brothers, thus preventing extortion on the part of that "middleman," the sexton.

Rumor has it at St. Louis that Col. W. M. Grosvenor is to join the editorial staff of the Chicago *Tribune*—making tariff articles a specialty of that paper.

The coal famine in England is now almost at an end, as prices are rapidly attaining their normal level. Sixteen shillings per ton is the price of good, useful coal.

The newest idea is that of a Wisconsin legislator, who demands that travelers by rail shall be weighed and made to pay so much per pound by weight of fare.

The work of introducing sea fish into the rivers of Maine, and hatching spawn for other States, undertaken six or eight years ago, has proved remarkably successful.

Texas has unexpectedly discovered a balance of over $100,000 to her credit in the United States Treasury, on account of an appropriation made nineteen years ago.

India recently experienced the blessings of a rainfall. It commenced in Bengal and Behar, extending to Oude and the threatened districts of the northwest provinces.

An immense fruit prospect prevails throughout Central Illinois, unless hereafter cut off by some unfavorable event. The cherry crop, in particular, promises to be enormous.

The Richmond *Whig* says: "Some of the most distinguished families in Virginia are of Indian descent, and are proud to own it." But some of them disgrace their ancestry.

The German exploring expedition in the Lybian desert, under Gerhard Rohlfs, the well known traveler, has reached the famous oasis of Dachel, containing 17,000 inhabitants.

The Governor of Illinois has banished the "wanities" of cards and dancing from the Executive mansion of that State, in response to the "demands" of the Methodist brethren.

High jinks. There was a negro wedding in Columbus, Miss., last week, which boasted cards, nine roasted pigs and a hundred cakes, and tapered off with three reception days.

Baltimore objects to waiting for her New York morning newspapers by mail until late in the afternoon, when she can get them without the aid of the postoffice several hours earlier.

The children of the Siamese twins, and especially the cultured and sympathetic eldest daughter, remonstrate against the exhibition of their parents in their post mortem condition.

The Governor of Virginia has just pardoned a convict upon the condition that he shall totally abstain for three years from the use of spirituous liquors and intoxicating drinks of any kind.

The latest legislative proposition in Illinois is to prevent extortions by sleeping car companies, and fix "reasonable maximum rates" for the use of cars furnished by those companies.

Out in Illinois a church was recently moved up and down hill, through the woods, and across a creek, a distance of four miles and a half, without jarring a hymn book or breaking the plastering.

A Cincinnati court has decided that any one purchasing a ticket for a theater after the hour announced for the curtain to rise, will be entitled to any seat in the house which he finds unoccupied on entering.

South Bend, Indiana, has thrifty ways. There are 2,500 workmen employed in the various manufactories there, and during the past year they produced nearly $5,000,000 worth of manufactured articles.

Not more than one-third of the taxable property in New York really pays anything. Two-thirds escape taxation, and of these two-thirds the great bulk is owned and controlled by rich men and wealthy capitalists.

A Kansas politician who made an unsuccessful race for the Senate has been elected gatekeeper of the State Grange. He doubtless prefers to be a "door-keeper in the house of the Lord than dwell in the tents of wickedness."

The East India trade, once the glory and pride of Boston, has almost deserted that port. The arrivals from Indian ports at New York in 1873 reached 159 ships, against 86 at Boston, while from the great port of Calcutta there were 50 arrivals at New York, against 12 at Boston.

A couple were recently married in Illinois, and after the ceremony the bride asked the husband his name. They had been acquainted only a few hours. This frankness on the part of the bride, showing a desire to know her husband's name, is suspicious of a happy future.

PERSONAL.

Canon Charles Kingsley, while in this country, will visit California before his return home, and while on the trip will drop in on Denver, and take a look at the scenery of Colorado.

Will. S. Hays, the Louisville namby-pamby song-writer and composer, has reformed, and now works at the composing-case daily. "While the gas holds out to burn, the vilest scribbler may return."

Dan. Rice is just now under an evil star. "He has been sold out, says *Wilkes's Spirit*, "at sheriff's sale, horse, foot and dragoons." His farm, and even his newspaper, the *Cosmopolitan*, edited by Charles Stow, did not escape his creditors.

During the rebellion the Pennypacker family, of Chester county, contributed to the soldiery of Pennsylvania one general, one surgeon, two captains, one lieutenant, one musician, and fifty privates. Records show that Virginia furnished eight and Tennessee two to the Confederate service.

Fannie Larrimore, of Hall's Cross Roads, Queen Anne county, Maryland, can go into a trance when she likes, and come out when she pleases. During her absence from the world she visits all the localities in the upper and lower regions, and interests her friends by a description of her travels.

Concord, New Hampshire, people are in a great quandary about a mysterious man, with long, white beard and mustache, who appears on the streets, afternoons, and thrusts a crucifix in the faces of young women, muttering something nobody can understand. Whenever any attempt is made to find out who he is, he suddenly disappears.

Overwhelming. O'Keefe, a member of the Montana Legislature, recently, answering a speech of one of his fellow members, said: "Mr. Speaker—This is a Democratic Legislature, and it is a misfortune to permit a one-horse Republican like Sanders to run it. No, sir, because the Senator from Lewis and Clarke is gifted with a tongue as long as a curlew, he mustn't think he can subdue and demolish all of us."

Cincinnati *Seance*: Medium describes a tall blue-eyed spirit with eye-glass and hair parted in the middle, and the interviewer bursted into tears. "Do you know him?" inquired a man at his side in a sympathetic whisper. "Know him? I guess I do," replied the unhappy man, wiping his eyes. "He was engaged to my wife. If he hadn't died he would have been her husband instead of me. Oh, George, George!" she murmured, in a voice choked with emotion, "why did you peg out?"

A professional life of forty years on one stage is rare enough to be mentioned, even though it be in Europe, and Mrs. Gruntner-Bachmann, who lived it, be altogether unknown to American fame. She made her debut in 1834, at the Stadt theater in Leipsic, and played there ever since, appearing last, January 12, only five days before her death. Her funeral was attended by the authority of the city, and at the grave, there were speeches, songs, wreaths and flowers, and the sincerest mourning.

A journalist who recently visited the widow of President Polk at her home in Nashville, was gratified to find her enjoying excellent health. He said:

"Time seems to have dealt lightly with her form and features, for her manner of speech, grace, elegance, and true womanly eye, always attractive and pleasing, have been mellowed by the soul's memories, and wrought to perfection which words fail to portray. She lives to honor the memory of the noble man who claimed her as his own, and in turn, she is honored by a nation."

A QUESTION OF FACT.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Lands—A Card from Col. T. P. Roberts in Reply to Statements of Gen. W. B. Hazen.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

At the request of acquaintances and friends, upon my return on different occasions from the far northwest, from along the route of the Northern Pacific Railroad, I wrote articles descriptive of those regions, confining myself mostly to the agricultural resources of the country, upon the merits of which, perhaps, more than upon anything else, depends the success of the railroad.

During two years that I was engaged on the surveys of the road, I traveled East and West through Montana Territory in a number of directions, from a point nearly two hundred miles west of the Rocky mountains, to the Missouri river, and from its Southern border North to Fort Benton, latitute 47 deg. 50 min. North. On the occasion of my second visit to from Sioux City, Iowa, *via* Fort Buford to Fort Benton, a distance of two thousand miles, taking thirty-six days, which trip enabled me to collect much information regarding Dakota in general. As late as last November I made a third trip, going to Minnesota and Dakota, passing over the line of the completed road from near Duluth to Bismarck, opposite Fort Lincoln on the Missouri, which point is about four hundred miles below Fort Buford at the mouth of the Yellowstone.

A plain statement of facts regarding the agricultural, grazing and lumber resources of different parts of the route of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which I made, appeared some what marvelous to some, but I brought evidences of the truth in specimens of grain which have not been equaled for quality, so far as I know, at any State fair or exhibition any where. Samples of cereals, several bushels of each, which I forwarded to New York, I understood received the premium at the American Institute Fair, over Minnesota, California and all other grain, and afterwards received the first premium at the Vienna Exposition, over the far-famed grain from Russia and Poland.

I do not desire to particularize again these features of Montana. That Territory stands like an oasis in the desert, compared with her sisters south. Her sparkling brooks, abounding with fish; her grass covered hills and timbered mountains, with their abundance of game and herds of cattle, in the settled parts, speak the language of *facts* which no fanciful theory from those who have never been there dare dispute. Winter and summer the grazing is alike good; and although it may not be the "Banana Zone," as the Cincinnati *Commercial* derisively calls it, the climate is far superior to, and more healthful than, Ohio or Pennsylvania. The bane of the valleys of the Little Miami, Wabash and Maumee—fever and ague—is entirely lacking in Montana. Ploughing is usually done in the latter part of January and early part of February, and in the latter part of February and first of March the grain is planted, before a plow is usually sunk in the Miami valley north of Cincinnati.

The Missouri river at Fort Benton breaks up in the spring at least one month earlier than it does at Sioux City, two thousand miles below. In the spring of 1872 it broke up at Fort Benton the same day that it did at St. Louis, ten and a half degrees further south. This is not one of "Jay Cooke's lies," but comes direct from the United States signal observer at Fort Benton. About 20,000 intelligent white people reside in Montana, and they support telegraph lines and daily newspapers. I have yet to hear from one of her citizens an authoritative denial of any of the reports published by officers of the Northern Pacific Railroad regarding the region in question.

Several years have elapsed since the road was begun, and nothing appeared to dispute the statements concerning the land, productions, climate, etc., until recently. Gen. W. B. Hazen, the commandant of Fort Buford, Dakota, writes to the New York *Tribune* a sweeping condemnation of the road, and likens the selling of bonds, with such a basis as these lands, to a fraud, and says that all who dispute *his* statements are falsifiers.

Fort Buford, undoubtedly, is a poor place to live, but still, I think, General Hazen has not done it justice. The winds are famous in that part of Dakota, as I experienced myself, and the winters doubtless very severe *at times*, though the general average of temperature, by General Hazen's own statements, is about the same as that of Philadelphia. As to matters not how low the thermometer may go in winter, if the summers are sufficiently warm to produce paying crops, agriculturists will be content to settle. General Hazen reports a failure in the garden at his post, but adds, further, that "onions with wheat and oats matured at Fort Berthold, 150 miles below, on the Missouri river." Why did he not go on and state that not only his post, but even Fort Berthold, was considerably north of the northern Pacific Railroad? But he prefers not to mention that fact, but have it appear, as it has through the press, that he is on the line of the road and knows all about it. By river, Fort Buford is over 400 miles above the Northern Pacific Railroad, and at the nearest point the surveyed lines are nowhere less than 130 miles south of that point. It is a curious fact, and some entertain that the isothermal lines, with their kinks and bends toward the northwest were placed on the maps at the instigation of Jay Cooke. The mean average and winter temperature were collated by the military authorities from years of observation of the several posts, and the lines were drawn in the first instance in Washington, some years ago, and have the sanction of Lorin Blodgit, the greatest climatologist of the country. Gen. Hazen, therefore when he disputes their correctness, quarrels with his own figures and the figures of all the army surgeons in the country.

Further on, he presumes to condemn Montana and Idaho Territories, and portions of the road many hundreds of miles from his quarters, of which, doubtless, he has not the slightest personal knowledge. Had Columbus landed on the Jersey coast in mosquito time, he no doubt would have published America as one great sandy desert, utterly worthless. Thus, General Hazen says: "Respecting the agricultural value of this country, after leaving the excellent wheat growing valley of the Red river of the North, following westward 1,000 miles to the Sierras, excepting the very limited bottoms of the small streams, as well as those of the Missouri and Yellowstone, a few yards in breadth to an occasional water-washed valley of one or two miles, and the narrow valleys of Montana already settled, and a small area of timbered country in northwest Idaho (probably one-fiftieth of the whole), this country will not produce the fruits and cereals of the east for want of sufficient moisture, and can in no way be irrigated; and most of the land here excepted will have to be irrigated artificially. I write this knowing full well it will meet with contradiction, but the contradiction will be a falsehood."

Certainly such statements, so much at variance with the truth, will meet with contradiction. Not a twentieth nor a one-hundredth part of the orable land in Montana is settled; and where irrigation is required to start crops, water in superabundance can be found and utilized at little cost, owing to the formation of "lay of the country." I made special inquiry into the subject of areas of orable land, and gauged the volume of the principal streams on both sides of the main range, and satisfied myself fully in regard to this matter.

My conclusions were, that the valleys within sixty miles of the proposed route of the railroad through Montana would produce, as a much lower average yield per acre than that now produced in the Gallatin or Prickly Pear valleys, at least 125,000,000 bushels of wheat per annum—equal to the product of any State in the Union, though it is the grazing and the mineral resources of that Territory that is claimed to afford the best and most certain prospect for business on the railroad.

There is little to note in passing along the river in the neighborhood of Fort Buford; but still I find in my notes some things perhaps worth mentioning as disputing Gen. Hazen's statements regarding the grazing in that vicinity.

"May 23d—7.30 P. M.—Passed Fort Buford, three and a half miles below the mouth of the Yellowstone, on the left bank. Quite a village, quarters, etc., well built; timber used said to be cottonwood, but well painted and neat looking. This upper river cottonwood appears to be more serviceable timber than that along the lower Ohio. The Yellowstone and Missouri unite in the middle of the valley the neck or point between them for a few acres in extent is open, back of which is a belt of young willow. About a half mile above the mouth of the Yellowstone we had a beautiful sunset view of its valley, for many miles. *The immediate valley is a beautiful bottom covered with luxuriant grass*, sloping from the low, rolling hills on the left bank to the dense timber growth which works, in a general way, the course of the Yellowstone. Its valley is about four miles wide from hill to hill," etc., etc.

We had in sight at least twenty square miles of the "luxuriant grass," none of which was more than six or eight miles away from Fort Buford. At twenty square miles there would be 12,800 acres, which, at half a ton to the acre (to be reasonable), there was certainly not less than 6,400 tons of hay to be had for the cutting. At the time of my visit the grass was about ten inches high, beautifully green, not having attained its full growth. General Hazen was certainly never at the spot, or he would not have credited the story of the contractor, who reported the utmost difficulty in providing nine hundred tons of hay for the post, *after examining 2,400 (!) square miles of territory* in the neighborhood. My journal on the following morning, passing the mouth of the Milk river of Muddy a few miles above, mentions "excellent grazing," and further on "grass northward as far as the eye can reach," etc., etc.

All the buffalo we saw were quite fat, and they were returning from the north in British America, where they winter in vast numbers. At the mouth of the Musselshell, the deepest snow had been only seven inches; horses and cattle had grazed out the winter previously—1873-2. General Hazen disposes of all the military officers who write contrary to him as "enthusiasts," though some that he mentions had much more extended experience in the regions in question.

THOMAS P. ROBERTS.

PITTSBURGH, February 25, 1874.

THE following is a verbatim copy of an application made to General Willard Warner, of Alabama, by a professed school teacher, for the privilege of opening a school at his iron furnace in Cherokee county:

Articles of Agreements for, 1874.

John C. obligates himself to teach the Rudiments of Reading Writing & Arethmatic Also will give lessons In Geography if requird Aso Gammer at the rates of one dollar & fifty cents per month for the term of Six months provided the health should be good if not as employers is to pay for the time he has taught The Said C.will take any kinde of produce for family supporte during the term C. will endeavor to keep order in Said School so far as in his power lies also attende to said Institution at regular hours &c

We the undesigned do Obligate Ourselves to furnish the Said C. with provisions as he teaches though the the term & if not all paid up during thime he teaches whenever he discontinues all dues payable for to C. for the time he has taught &c

MORE UNITED TWINS.

A Pair in Ohio, Another in Maryland, and Yet Another in England.

OHIO'S FREAK OF NATURE.

The Cleveland (Ohio) *Leader* gives the following description of twins closely resembling the Siamese twins in the manner of their union, which, four years ago, were presented to the Museum of the Homœopathic College in that city, by Dr. Maney, of Sandusky, where they were born: "The fleshy mass connecting them extended from the extremity of the breast bone (*sternum*) of each downward to the extent of about one inch, and was sufficiently long to admit of their being placed side by side either to the right or to the left. Their general appearance upon delivery was that of two plump, well-formed boys of equal size, apparently having very nearly, if not quite, completed the term proper for all babes to observe before putting in an appearance for an independent existence. The body, head, and limbs of each were all well fashioned, there being nothing in the external anatomy of the little ones to indicate that they might not be capable of maintaining life without the aid of an immediate union with the mother. The features of their faces were quite regular, without, however, presenting any very marked resemblance to each other, or any marked peculiarity excepting the presence of the two upper central teeth, which were so well developed in each as to be plainly visible. The *post-mortem* was conducted by Dr. H. F. Biggar, in the presence of Prof. G. P. Spence, Drs. C. C. Olmstead, W. A. Phillips, H. C. Frost, Messrs. E. C. Buell and W. H. Huntington, and revealed the following state of things. The umbilical cord—there being only one for both—was quite normal, consisting of connective matter, two arteries, and one vein, and entered the mass, uniting them at its lower central portion. An incision, extending from the entrance of the cord upward to the superior aspect of the connecting substance and carried deep enough to freely divide the skin, only brought the thin membrane covering the bowels (peritoneum) plainly to view, and showed that this structure was continuous from one body to the other without interruption. Directly under the line of the incision it was also observed that the peritoneum was folded upon itself in such a manner as to form what is known as the broad, or suspensory ligament of the liver. Along the free border of this ligament the umbilical vein could be traced by its junction with the under surface of the liver in body No. 1, and so far as the preservation of the specimen permitted the vessel to be followed, it was found to be every way natural as regards its distribution. A free opening was now made into the trunk, and the liver of No. 1 thoroughly examined. It was found to be somewhat above the normal size and considerably displaced, the left lobe and a small proportion of the right being wholly within the cylindrical mass joining the bodies. The liver belonging to body No. 1 was very nearly in position, but only about one-sixth the size of the other, and was united thereto by a growth of proper liver substance, giving it the appearance of being an appendage of the larger one notwithstanding the natural anatomical structure was well defined. A marked deviation was observed of the kidneys—the right kidney of No. 1 being enormously enlarged, while the left one was entirely absent, not even a rudimentary structure being discernable in its stead. Both kidneys were present in body No. 2, but extremely small. The heart in No. 1 was fully half as large again as natural; that in No. 2 correspondingly small. The remaining internal organs were in no wise abnormal either as regards size, situation or structure. It is apparent from the above, even if the various internal organs of both infants had been capable of performing their several functions, and life had continued subsequent to their birth, that no surgical interference for the separation of the bodies could have occurred without speedily producing death."

THE MARYLAND TWINS.

The Baltimore *Sun*, of a late date, says: On Saturday, the 7th instant, publication was made in the *Sun* of the birth, on the previous Wednesday, at Tobacco-stick, Dorchester county, of female twins, who were joined at the breast in a manner more wonderful than the Siamese twins, now being autopsied in Philadelphia. The Dorchester twins were of colored parentage, the mother being Mary Travers, who is now in excellent health. One of the twins was alive at birth, but died in a few seconds thereafter. The other, when born, was dead. These twins ushered into the world bore the impress upon its face of a genuine negro, while the complexion of the other was like that of a white person, and the hair less kinky upon its head than that usually among the colored population of the State. Dr. La Count Smith, of Tobacco-stick, became possessed of the bodies of the twins shortly after their birth, and with them arrived in this city yesterday afternoon for the purpose of having the bodies properly preserved, which will be done by placing them in an aquarium-shaped vessel, filled with alcohol. Last night the Dorchester monstrosities were exhibited at the office of Dr. J. H. Tall, corner of Sharp and Lee streets, in presence of several medical gentlemen. The bond of union connecting the bodies of the twins extends from the center of the breastbone to the navel, thus placing the bodies face to face. The babies are well formed, and weigh ten pounds and a half, and measures eighteen inches in length. The physicians who were present at Dr. Tall's office last night gave as their opinions that each of the twins possessed separate stomachs, hearts, livers, &c., and that a wall separated the stomachs along that portion where the bond of union exists. The only case on record where a similar bond of union ever existed is in the London Museum, and like the Dorchester novelty, the twins were females.

THE ALDERNEY SISTERS.

Two sisters, Eliza and Mary Chulkhurst, were born at Biddenden, in the county of Kent, England, it is stated, in the year 1100, who were joined together at the shoulders and hips. Each sister had but one arm, the band which joined them at the shoulder taking the place of the other arm. With this exception, the sisters were perfectly formed. They appear to have been in tolerable circumstances, as at their death they left about twenty acres of land to the parish of Biddenden, the income arising from which is yearly expended in bread and cheese, and small cakes, each bearing the impression of the twins. These cakes are given away every Easter Sunday, after morning service, to the poor inhabitants of the district, and to strangers, by whom the cakes are preserved as curiosities. According to the account given of the maids they died within six hours of each other, at the age of thirty-four years. After the death of the first, the surviving sister was advised to be separated from the body of the other, but she refused, saying, in the words of the old chronicle, "As we came together we will also go together."

Scotch Bricks.

The pressed bricks made in Scotland have long been noted for their characteristics of superior material and manufacture, their durability, and finished appearance. They are prepared by taking the ordinary bricks, when but partially dry, and putting them through a pressing machine, of which there are various constructions. A very simple and effective machine for this purpose consists simply of a series of the bricks of the size of the brick, fitted into a very strong iron frame; this mold is let down the inside of the framing by means of an eccentric, which allows the brick to be put in on a flat sole, level with the top of the same mold, and a handle is attached to this eccentric, which, on being drawn, lifts the iron box or mold inclosing the brick. It is then compressed by the action of a very powerful lever wrought by hand, this being attached to the piston in connection with the sole-plate on which the brick was at first placed; the pressure is thus communicated by this lever forcing up the sole-plate, causing the brick to be fixed between it and a die suspended from the upper part of the machine by two strong bolts. This being accomplished, the lever and eccentric are allowed to take their original vertical position, the compressed brick is removed and replaced by another.

In all the machines used for this purpose, particular care is taken to see that the mold is made of sufficient strength, that it shall in no way yield when the lever is applied, and that it and the piston fit each other exactly; when this is not the case, a "feather" is formed round the edges of the bricks, in consequence of the clay having egress when it is under pressure. Bricks made in this manner are of denser texture, and require more care and time in drying, but, when properly prepared, they take on a beautiful appearance with a very clean cut-finish, and are admirably adapted for facing.

The temperance leaders in New York discourage praying and singing in or in front of liquor saloons, which they fear will lead to disturbances. They prefer to quietly circulate a pledge.

Indistinct Ailments.

There are many distressing symptoms of disease, the causes of which are uncertain. Debility, nervous irritation, mental stupor, and headache, for instance, may possibly be symptomatic of chronic disease in some particular organ; yet, in the majority of cases, at least, they arise from indigestion, and morbid conditions of the liver and bowels engendered by a foul stomach. When this is the case a few doses of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters will usually affect a complete cure, but should the symptoms be only mitigated without being entirely removed, by a brief course of the remedy, let it be continued until every trace of disease has vanished. Dyspepsia is a wonderful mimic. It imitates with startling accuracy the indications of heart disease, brain disease, kidney disease, and half a dozen other frightful ailments, and were the doctors have solemnly announced the existence of one or other of these complaints, half a dozen doses of the Bitters will, in most cases, explode their theories by curing the patient.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

ASSETS JANUARY 1, 1873....$778,351 56

FINANCE AND TRADE.

THURSDAY EVENING, February 26, 1874.

We are apt to think that a well-trod path is the easiest and the best, and perhaps so far as mere physical comfort is concerned this may be true. Yet it does not hold good with the markets, which are more difficult to comment on, as they continue in the same straight and unvaried current. When the market is distinguished by salient changes, they are more interesting and easier of comment,—just as variety is more easy of description and so less tiresome than a monotone of events.

To-day has been marked by the same features as yesterday, and it by those of an almost endless series of yesterdays. Money is not sought beyond an ordinary demand, and the business of the banks has continued in a remarkable state of quietude. The rates are quotable at from 7 to 10 per cent. and the open market not above the latter figure on good paper.

In wholesale circles there has been some improving tendency. The attendance of buyers has been more numerous and the merchants recently arriving have as a rule been ready to enter into more extended operations than those that preceded them.

Still extreme caution is exercised on both sides, buyers looking carefully to the probable demands of their sections, and sellers scrutinizing the standing and credit of customers that do not pay cash.

The season is now opening when dealers will be compelled to make up their assortments and the actual requirements of trade is forcing purchases.

Payments from the neighboring towns are coming in with a fair degree of promptness, and trade seems to grow daily more satisfactory.

During the past three months, as Congress has been discussing the redistribution of the currency, and arguing whether or not the $25,000,000 asked for the South and West would stay there or flow into the monetary centers, the question has been practically solved by the course of the $26,000,000 greenbacks set afloat by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The friends of redistribution complain that there is not enough currency in the South and West. Those who oppose further issues of irredeemable money hold that such issues would not reach the West and South, but would be quickly concentrated at the financial centers.

On the 15th of February, 1873, the outstanding greenbacks amounted to $356,000,000, of which the banks in the three cities of New York, Boston and Philadelphia held $63,797,982. On the 16th of February, 1874, the greenbacks were $381,327,327, of which the same banks held $87,228,854.

The currency had been inflated to the amount of $25,327,327, and three cities had absorbed the whole increase with the exception of $1,898,645. By how much had the West and South been benefited by the inflation?

Increase of currency really affects the rate of interest, but in the contrary way to that which is generally supposed, by raising, not by lowering it.

The reverse will happen as the effect of calling in or diminishing in quantity a depreciated currency. The money in the hands of lenders, in common with all other money, will be enhanced in value; that is, there will be a greater amount of real capital seeking borrowers; while the real capital wanted by borrowers will be only the same as before, and the latter, as a class, will be poorer. The end of it is, therefore, will tend to fall.—John Stuart Mill.

The great Massachusetts statesman, Daniel Webster, said, many years ago:

A depreciated currency is one of the greatest of political evils. It undermines the virtues necessary for the support of law and government, and encourages propensities destructive of its happiness. It wars against industry, frugality and economy; and it fosters the evil spirits of extravagance and speculation. Of all the contrivances for cheating the laboring classes of mankind none has been more effectual than that which depindes them with paper money. This is the most effectual way to enrich the rich man's field by the sweat of the poor man's brow. Ordinary tyranny, oppression, excessive taxation, these bear lightly on the happiness of the mass of the community compared with a fraudulent currency and the robberies committed by a depreciated paper. Our own history has recorded for our instruction enough, and more than enough, of the demoralizing tendency, the injustice, and the intolerable oppression on the virtuous and well disposed, of a degraded paper currency authorized by law or in any way countenanced by government.

—The following is a copy of the Usury bill now before the Legislature:

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same. That from and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful to charge and receive a rate of interest not exceeding ten per centum per annum on the loan or discount of money; Provided, that when the rate exceeds six per centum per annum the contract shall be in writing and be signed by the borrower or party agreeing to pay the same.

SEC. 2. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the above section be and the same are hereby repealed.

—The following tables show the prices of gold, government bonds, and railway stocks, at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue:

	Morning.	Noon.	Evening.
U. S. 6s, 1881	119¾	119⅝	119⅝
U. S. 6s, 1881, coupons	119⅝	120⅛	120⅛
5-20s, 1865	117¾	117¾	117¾
5-20s, 1865	119¼	119⅝	119⅝
5-20s, 1865	119¼	119⅝	119⅝
5-20s, 1867	119¼	119⅝	119⅝
5-20s, 1867, coupons	119¼	119⅝	119⅝
10-40s	113¾	113¾	113¾
10-40s, coupons	116	116	116
Currency 6s	116½	116½	116½
Currency 5s	114¾	114¾	114¾
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessee	91	89	89
Tennessee, new			
South Carolina, July	8½	9	9
Missouri 6s	95	95¾	95¾

February 26, 1874.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	112¾	112⅝	112⅝	112⅝	112⅝	112⅝
Western Union Teleg'h	78½	79¾	80¾	76	76½	76¾
Pacific Mail	43¾	43¾	43¾	43¾	43¾	43¾
Adams Express		96		96½		
Wells, Fargo Express		64½		64½		
American Express		64¼		64		
United States Express		44		44		
New York Central	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½
Erie	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	47
Michigan Southern	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
Illinois Central	104	104	104	104	104	104
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	87½	87½	87½		87½	
Chicago & Northwestern	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾	74¾
Do Preferred	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Rock Island	105¾	105¾	105¾	105¾	105¾	105¾
St. Paul		46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾	46¾
Do Preferred		76¾	76¾	76¾	76¾	76¾
Wabash	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾	30¾
Fort Wayne	92	92	92	92	92	92
Ohio and Mississippi	33	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾	32¾
Union Pacific	34¾	34⅝	34¾	34¾	34¾	34¾
Chicago and Alton			106½		104	
Boston, Hartford & Erie			13¾			
Harlem	132½		132¾		132¾	

—Robinson & Co., bankers, Fourth avenue, furnish the following report of active stocks at the Philadelphia Board:

Penna. R.R.	52
Penna. Scrip	98
United Co.'s N. J.	123
Oil Creek	17¾
Lehigh Valley	60¼
A. V. R. R. 7-30	98
Central Transportation	43¾
Empire Transportation	50¾

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 26, 1874.

REMARKS—Weather cold, streets icy and trade generally dull, though not more so than is usual at this season of the year.

Money is said to be abundant, the banks begging for borrowers of their surplus. Still far-seeing, prudent business men do not chose to enter upon new or more extensive enterprises until there is a tranquility put to the currency question by Congress.

There are few changes in prices, and none worthy of special mention. We give the rulings of some of the leading articles:

BACON AND PROVISON—Hams, sugar cured, extra, @ lb. 15¾c; shoulders, do extra, sugar cured, @ lb. 9¼c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 2c; dried beef, extra sugar cured @ lb, 16¾c; beef tongues, sugar cured, @ doz. $7 50; bacon, clear rib sides, @ lb. 9¾c; do rib sides @ lb. 9¾c; do clear sides, @ lb. 9¾c; mess pork @ bbl. $16 50; do, extra prime fat in tierces, @ lb. 10¾c; refined do for summer use, in tierces, @ lb. 10¾c; refined do for summer use, in half bbls, @ lb. 10¾c; refined do for summer use, in boxes, @ lb. 11¼c; refined do, 1 lb cakes, 12¼c; refined do, 2 lb cakes, 12¾c; refined do in 5 lb pails, 13¾c; refined do in 5 lb pails 13¾ @ lb; ham sausage, 10c @ lb.

BUTTER—Choice very scarce and commands 30c @ lb; medium to good 25@28c.

CHEESE—Prime Ohio Factory 16¾@17c to the trade, and in a jobbing way 17@18c; Young American 18c; Nuimeg 17c. Prime to choice Ohio Sweitzer 20@21c.

FLOUR—White wheat flour @ 25@10; red winter @ $5 50; cnoice Minnesota, spring wheat, $7@7 50 @ bbl.

GROCERIES—*Coffee*—Green, choice, 34c; prime 33c; good 30@31c; fair 29@30c; Java 38 to 40c. Roasted do—In papers 36c; in bulk 34@35c. Java 42 to 45c.

Tea—Young Hyson, 50@81 10 @ lb; Gunpowder 65@1 25; Imperial, 55@1 00; Japan, 55c@1 @ lb; Oolong, 75@85c @ lb; fancy, $1 25@1 50 @ lb.

Sugars—Standard Ex C, 10¼c; Standard B, 10¾c; standard A, 10¾c; Standard hards, 11¾c.

Molasses—Strictly prime New Orleans, 70c; choice, c, and scarce; old or p, 65@70c, and little in market.

Syrups—Extra White Drips, 70c; Sugar Drips, 65c; wer grades, 45@50c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Carolina, 9@9¼c; Patna, 8@8½c; ongon Sc.

GRAIN—Wheat—Red winter $1 50@1 60; white 65@1 70. Oats—This market was quiet, at 55@56c as to grade and quality. Corn—ear is in derate request at 68@70c @ bush, white shelled 1 fetch 70@72c. Receipts very light, with sales at $1 00@1 05. Barley—nominally $1 65@1 70. The following table shows the receipts of produce r the past twenty-four hours, by rail and river:

ur, bbls	227	Hay, tons	6
eese, bxs	6	Corn, sks	961
eat, sks	170	Butter, pkgs	49
ts, sks	1,200	Potatoes, bush	1,175
rn, tcs	150		

IRON MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

February 25.—The market has been very quiet ce our last; the only sale is 100 tons gray forge at rivate price. Scotch pig is without movement ote, while American pig is at a standstill. The mpanies are lots to contract ahead for fear of kes among the workmen, and as nearly all of m have one or more furnaces out of blast, there ot likely to be a general resumption until busiss in the manufactured article is more lively and general fear of strikes overcome. Rails of all descriptions and scrap have been without movement. ipted her fresh enquiries, continues as before noticed, t not sufficient demand to warrant any advance, ugh it cannot be laid down at present selling es.—Commercial Journal.

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

ebruary 25.—Trade since our last has been very erate, owing to the recurrence of the holiday. market has been almost destitute of any buyers, the few here have bought sparingly. Prices since quite firm, as advices from the London s state that December prices are fully sustained. sales comprise 100 bags Cape pulled at 62½c; 50 @ bags Texas, 60c; 15 bags super pulled, 65c; 0 @ bags, 66c; 26,000 lb Texas, 27½@34½c; 50,000 @ lbs, 66c; 26,000 lb Texas, 27½@34½c; 50,000

CITY MATTERS.

Letters Held for Postage.

FEBRUARY, 25, 1874.

	Cents.
Dundore, J., Iowa City, Iowa	3
Eisenbeis, J. Allegheny, Pa	3
Foster, John, Bellair, O	3
Good, Wm., Dayton, Pa	3
Kennedy & Co., Keokuk, Iowa	3
Metcalf, Blanch, St. Martins, O	5
McAboy, Dr. L. R., Columbus, N. C	5
Wax, Sallie E., Cheviine, O	3
Tribune, Ed., Selinsgrove, Pa	3
Knake, K. T., New York	3
Tokens Sisters, Brinton, Pa	3

E. C. NEGLEY, P. M.

Violating a City Ordinance.

On Wednesday last officer Richard Geary made an information against Wm. McIntyre, of Allegheny, charging him with a second violation of a city ordinance by erecting a frame building on Jackson street, near the Allegheny Stock Yards. Last week Mr. McIntyre was arrested for the same offense, but was dismissed on paying the costs. Yesterday he had a hearing before Deputy Mayor Neillie, and was fined $100 and costs for the second violation. He paid the fine and expressed his determination to carry the matter to court.

Mr. Swoope's Will.

The will of H. B. Swoope, Esq., was filed and admitted to probate in the office of Register Gray, yesterday. The will bears date of 1865, and is witnessed by W. Radebaugh and A. A. Adams, citizens of Clearfield borough. The deceased bequeaths all of his property to his wife, Susanna B. Swoope, and appoints her executrix. He requests that his library be preserved intact, and given to that one of his sons who, in the judgment of his wife, will use it best. The deceased had his life insured for $5,000 in the Penn Mutual Company of Philadelphia. Among other things in the will is a request that his wife do not marry again, in view of his well known convictions in regard to second marriages.

The Thirty-Seventh Ward Annexation.

As has already been stated, Mr. James Kelly has filed a bill in equity asking the court to restrain the Councils from exercising authority over the territory included in the recently annexed Thirty-seventh ward, on the ground that the petition for annexation did not contain the legal number of signatures, and that the passage of the ordinance was procured through fraud and collusion. James M. Stoner, Esq., was appointed Commissioner to ascertain the facts, and report to the court, with the form of a decree. The Commissioner appointed yesterday afternoon at three o'clock to proceed with the case.

S. Schoyer, Jr., Esq., appeared for the complainant, and Jacob F. Slagle, Esq., for the city.

Owing to the absence of Mr. John Rice, the first witness proposed to be examined, the case was adjourned until Wednesday afternoon next, March 4th, at half-past one o'clock.

Compliment to a Retiring Railroad Official.

An agreeable affair took place on Wednesday evening at the office of the Western Pennsylvania Railroad, at Blairsville, when a handsome compliment was paid D. Neilson, Esq., Superintendent, who severs his connection with the road ceased on the 15th inst. Quite a large number of friends were present and the object of the meeting was disclosed when Mr. J. Mc.C. Creigton, the present Superintendent in a brief speech, presented Mr. Neilson with a handsome gold headed cane and Mrs. Neilson with a service of silver. Mr. Neilson responded in a very appropriate manner. The cane bore the inscription: "To Robert Neilson, from the officers of the West Penn Division, P. R. R." The silver service the following: "To Mrs. R. Neilson. from the officers of the West Penn Division, P. R. R." The affair was a very enjoyable one indeed, and will be remembered with pleasure by all who par icipated.

A Benevolent Enterprize.

Rev. Geo. Bosley, agent of the Book Concern of the African M. E. Zion church, is in the city, and will call on our citizens for such contributions as they may be willing to make to a most worthy cause. Mr. Bosley is strongly accredited by the officers of the Church, and by distinguished citizens of Washington as the duly constituted agent and canvasser of the Concern. It is contemplated, besides building up a fine Book Concern in the Capital, to establish and maintain a Theological Seminary at Fayetteville, in North Carolina, whereby to multiply preachers and teachers of the Gospel of the Redeemer among the colored people throughout the country. The Seminary and the Book Concern are admirably adapted for mutually aiding each other, and constituting together a potential instrument for good to the race. We learn that some of our churches have already generously offered permission to him to present his cause to their people, and we hope a like generosity will be exhibited by many more of our churches.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge McCandless.

A. H. Branson of Crawford county, debtor, filed an answer to the petition in bankruptcy of Fred. W. Huidekoper of Titusville, and was granted a jury trial at the next term of court.

A rule was granted on W. G. Johnston, trustee, etc., petitioning creditor in the case of Blackmore & Nelson, to show cause why E. P. Jones, trustee of Smithfield Savings bank, should not be allowed to intervene. Returnable March 6th.

The assignee of Edward Hall, Allegheny county, bankrupt, presented a petition for leave to apply the proceeds of the sale of certain real estate to the payment of designated judgments. Referred to Register Harper.

In the matter of Elroy & Dickson vs. William Carmichael, debtor, of Mercer county, the motion for an injunction was continued to March 5th.

Dist ict Court — Judges Ewing, Kirkpatrick and White.

In the cases of P. Galusha et al. vs. Ramaley et al—four cases, before reported—the jury found, in the trespass case, for the plaintiffs, $226 80. In each of the other three cases, $100 for the plaintiffs.

In the care of N. W. Bigley vs. John Douglas, action to recover for twenty-two days services, the jury found for the plaintiff $1 92 d. Mr. Douglas, as contractor for the stone work for the new pumping works at Negley's run, hired the plaintiff to deliver stone, by means of a horse and flatboat, and after keeping him waiting for twenty-two days, dismissed him without any compensation.

In the case of John Aegelman, executor of Margaret Firmaree, vs. Nancy Firmaree, et al., the plaintiff took a non-suit.

Adam Weise vs. Moorhead, Adams & Co. Action on a promissory note for $5,000. This case is similar to others against the same defendants, and already reported. On trial before Judge Kirkpatrick.

In the case of T. J. Bacon vs. the German Savings Bank, the plaintiff asked leave to file an additional declaration, and the cause was continued.

TRIAL LIST FOR TO-DAY.

Sinnott vs. Mullen.
McCoy vs. Haraun.
Cadman & Son vs. Heilfroner.
Wallace et al. vs. Evans.
Anshutz & Co. vs. Wright.
Eisessor vs. Ewing & McAfee.
Fitzsimmons vs. McCullough et al.
Huber et ux. vs. Tribe.

Common Pleas—Judges Sterrett, Stowe and Collier.

In the cases of Watson and Watson vs. Horner, Wood & Co., before Judge Stowe, the jury found for the plaintiff. In one case, in the sum of $7,100, and in the other case they found for the defendants.

The Orphans' Court Argument list was disposed of yesterday, leaving the cases on the Quarter Sessions Argument list will be subject to call.

THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.

The Demonstration at Wheeling.

The Sir Knights of the Masonic Order from this city arrived at Wheeling at half-past one o'clock Wednesday afternoon, to participate in the ceremonies of instituting the Grand Commandery of West Virginia. A procession was formed and the guests from various parts of the country, with their Wheeling brethren marched through the principal streets in the following order: Mozart's brass band, Wheeling Commandery, Hope Commandery, Steubenville Commandery, Jacques de Molay Commandery, Great Western band, Tancred Commandery, Allegheny Commandery, Pittsburgh Commandery. On the return of the Knights to Masonic Hall, the Grand Commandery of West Virginia was opened and constituted in ample form, by V. E. Sir James H. Hopkins, Grand Master of the United States.

In the evening a banquet was enjoyed at the McClure House, when the toasts were given and responded to as noted below:

1. Welcome to Visitors—Sir W. J. Bates, P. E. C. of Wheeling Commandery.
2. The Grand Encampment of the United States—Sir James H. Hopkins, of Pittsburgh, Deputy Grand Master.
3. The Grand Commandery of Virginia—Sir Wm. B. Isaacs, of Richmond Grand Commandery.
4. The Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania —Sir Geter C. Shidle, of Pittsburgh, Past Grand Commander.
5. The Grand Commandery of Ohio, Sir Enoch T. Carson, of Cincinnati, Gr. Commander.
6. The Grand Commandery of West Virginia, Sir G. S. Long, P. E. C., of Wheeling Commandery.
7. The Grand Lodge of Ohio, Sir A. H. Battin, of Steubenville, Grand Master.
8. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Sir Alfred Creigh, of Washington, Past Grand Recorder.
9. The Grand Lodge of West Virginia, Sir Thomas H. Logan, of Wheeling, Grand Master.
10. The Knightly Courtesy that Cheers Us on Our Way—Sir John H. Cook, of Steubenville, Generalissimo.
11. The Three Charms of Masonry—Rev. Sir L. B. Carpenter, of Wheeling, Knight of Beaumont Commandery, Decatur, Ill.
12. The Excellent Qualities of the Templar Sword—Sir R. A. Alexander, of Bridgeport, F. C. of Hope Commandery, St. Clairsville.

At ten o'clock the Knights of Pittsburgh and Allegheny left for home, arriving at the Union depot at an early hour yesterday morning.

THE WAR AGAINST WO[illegible]

Yesterday's Temperance Meeting.

Ladies Becoming More Anxious for a Crusade.

Motion to Exclude Reporters Rescinded—The Ladies Becoming More Bold to Express Their Views—Prayer Meetings to be Held at the Various Churches—The Clergy Becoming More Favorable to the Movement.

In accordance with the request of the Executive Committee made at the ladies' temperance meeting, on Monday afternoon, another meeting was held yesterday afternoon in the chapel of the Third Presbyterian church, Sixth avenue, for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee as to the best method of conducting the coming crusade against the liquor dealers, and to exchange their views on the question.

The exercises were opened by the President *pro tem.*, Rev. Dermitt, reading a portion of the Scriptures, followed by prayer, after which the audience joined in singing,

"Come thou fount of every blessing."

OPENING ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT.

Mr. Dermitt then proceeded to address the meeting, as follows: We have been asked if gentlemen were allowed to be present at these meetings. In reply, we would say yes. They are perfectly welcome to a place in our midst. We need their sympathy and co-operation, and are consequently glad to have them assemble with us. I am here only temporarily, and to represent the ladies, to lead them till one of their number lays aside all fear and takes the lead herself. The object of the meeting this afternoon is to further the temperance cause, to see if some means cannot be devised that shall sweep from the earth the terrible evil of intemperance. Intemperance has laid low more of your husbands and fathers and sons than all the wars that have ever swept over the earth. And now how may this be conquered? Many of the men tell us 'by moral suasion.' They say they are opposed to this movement of the women, that the ladies have no right to interfere with the liquor dealers in their business. They oppose the law by so doing. They say eradicate the evil by moral suasion. For thirty years I have heard moral suasion preached as the means to induce men to give up the traffic but the evil still exists. And now when the ladies are inaugurating a movement that will break up the traffic the creatures that call themselves men—they are not such—stand aghast. But be not discouraged by this. Continue as you have begun. You are now following the pillar and the cloud. I have been charged with having spoken too frequently at the last meeting. Perhaps I do have too much to say; perhaps I may speak too frequently to-day, but I can't prevent it. My heart is too full of this great work. I must speak. I am like the boiler of a steam engine. When a boiler gets too full, the steam must be let off or it will burst. So must I let off from the fullness of my heart, or I'll burst. The speaker then dwelt on the progress of the work abroad, and closed by speaking encouragingly of its prospects in this city, when the report that appeared in Tuesday's COMMERCIAL was read by the Secretary as the minutes of the last meeting, and adopted.

REPORTERS TO BE ADMITTED.

Mr. Dermitt stated that he had been misrepresented in reference to the matter of the exclusion of the reporters of the press. He had been accused of desiring to exclude them himself. Such was not the case. The motion that they be not admitted was made by a lady at the last meeting, and he had put it the same as any other question. He understood that the exclusion was but temporary in order that the ladies might gain confidence. At the conclusion of his remarks, a lady arose and moved that hereafter the reporters of the press be admitted. This motion was put and carried unanimously.

NO DEFINITE COURSE OF ACTION YET.

Mrs. Hill, Chairman, presented a verbal report from the Executive Committee. She said that as yet the committee had no matured plans or method of procedure in the temperance work to present for the consideration of the meeting. They had been looking around among the ladies for some one suitable and willing to act as permanent President of their future meetings, and several names had occurred to them, but no one yet determined upon. They had received a great deal of encouragement, and were earnestly considering the subject presented to them, but must have more time to do so; and would therefore ask that the report be accepted. The report was accepted, and additional time granted.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

The following communications from other organizations were read by the Secretary and, on motion, received and ordered to be recorded on the minutes:

At the regular meeting of the Women's Christian Association of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, held this morning, February 26th, after the reading of our Bible reader's report, wherein the evils of intemperance were vividly depicted, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we express our heartfelt sympathy with the Temperance cause, and that we pledge our prayers for the successful issue of any movement in its behalf.

MRS. F. R. BRUNOT, President.
CORNELIA MCFADDEN, Secretary.

At a meeting of Bethlehem Star Division No. 2, Sons of Temperance, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by seventy-one members of the division:

First, We do hereby tender to the Women's Temperance League of Pittsburgh our earnest and heartfelt sympathy and co-operation in their present temperance movement.

Second, In accordance with our desire to give them practical support, the free use of our hall is tendered for the meetings of the League in the East End.

Third. The heartfelt and sincere prayers of this division are with the Women's Temperance League, and the temperance cause in general.

The above resolutions are respectively submitted.

ROBERT CONNOR, W. Patriarch.
JOHN N. MCGONIGLE, Secretary.

EAST END, PITTSBURGH, }
February 24, 1874. }

The ladies of the Nixon Street Baptist church held a large and earnest meeting of prayer on Monday last for the success of the ladies' temperance movement, and another meeting will be held for the same purpose on Friday afternoon at three o'clock. We have not yet decided upon any other course than those already formed, but believe if we take hold upon the Lord by faithful prayer we may drive the liquor dealers out of the traffic without going near the saloons. Is not our God a mighty God? He will not fail nor forsake us.

From one who has suffered,

M. E. MOTHERAT.

Another communication, puporting to be from a lady of Wilkinsburg was handed to the secretary and read; but as it was signed "a mother" Mrs. Hill stated that she supposed it had a real signature or she would rejected it. It was a plan of organization and suggested the immediate election of officers, including an Executive Committee of fifty and a Visiting Committee of the same number. The army of workers was to be divided into companies of one hundred or, less, each to have a leader, and numbered Co. A, Co. B, etc., Co. A was to devote the first hour to singing and prayer at the first saloon visited, Co. B, was to follow, while Co. A proceeded to another saloon. In case any of the company was arrested they were to proceed to the Mayor's office, where bail would be forthcoming. They would then return to their operations.

"SAVED FROM A DRUNKEN HUSBAND."

No further business was before the meeting, and the audience joined in singing the hymn

"Arise, my soul, arise,"

when an old lady arose and stated that this movement was of the Lord, and she felt it her duty to tell her views of it. She had never suffered from drunkenness in her family, but had the Lord in mind that such was the case. She was engaged to a fine young man, who was intelligent, respectable and in every wise fitted for a useful life. But he was addicted to drinking wine. After friends remonstrated with her marrying him, and she dropped him, and was thus saved from a drunken husband. For before she left her home at Philadelphia this same man was reaping a low, dirty doggery. She urged God from then on all blessings now."

was then sung and sung again when Mr. Dermitt said: How many persons here to-day would give the world to be able to tell such a story as that! Yes, God has called us to be aware of young men who take an occasional drink. If he loves wine, young lady turn about. Now I beleive in kissing—I would have every young lady kiss those lips is too shy and back ward to kiss her, seize him by both ears and deal him out some good round kisses, and see if his breath is scented. If the scent of cloves and allspice comes from his lungs beware of him.

A YOUNG LADY'S ADDRESS.

The ladies were then called upon by the President to take part in the meeting, and a young lady about sixteen years of age arose and pathetically delivered the following:

Come ye ladies of Pittsburgh, whose neighbors, friends and acquaintances are addicted to strong drink. Come ye wives whose husbands come staggering to the family fireside and cruelly treat and beat you. Come ye mothers, whose sons spend the youth of their lives in low drinking saloons, thus acquiring the taste for strong drink. Come ye maidens who may, by offering the wine glass, have started some young man on a drunkard's life, come one and all and join hands in this mighty conflict. And let the children speak. Let those whose drunken fathers have abused and harshly treated them, let them speak. I propose that a committee of two ladies be appointed in every ward to visit the different schools and ask the children if they want their fathers to drink. Let their voices ring out like thunder against this terrible evil. And let us pray that God may grant their request.

REV. MR. BANE'S VIEWS.

Rev. Mr. Bane was then called on by the President to come forward and address the meeting. Mr. Bane complied with the request by going forward and saying: There is no need to come forward, for I do not feel much like talking. Yet I will talk because a charge has been made in an evening paper that the ministers were not in sympathy with the temperance cause. This is not true. They may not have made the announcement from their pulpits on Sunday last that a meeting would be held by the ladies on the following Monday, and yet be in sympathy with this movement of the ladies. I did not announce it for two reasons; first, I had already talked too long. Second, I did not know at that time that this movement was reliably reported. But when the papers say the ministers are opposed to the temperance cause, they are wrong. Concerning this present movement, I do not know what to say. Men have tried everything to kill the liquor traffic, but have accomplished little or nothing. One drunkard here and there may have been reclaimed, but to arrest the traffic little has been done. We have tried license, no license, local option, prohibition, tried everything except one thing, viz: we have forgotton to try the spirit of the living God. The ladies are justified in the movement for that reason. They are justified in it again because they are the great sufferers. A family starves, and freezes and suffers, while the husband and father is spending his money for rum. The little boys are twitted at school, and on the streets because their father is a drunkard. I knew of a little boy in Vermont who was always made to carry his father's jug for whisky. He one time come home with the jug and going to his mother said, "Ma, I wish I was dead." Why my son? "Because my father's a drunkard." The mother soon afterwards found her little boy dead, hanging by the neck. Such sufferings certainly form an excuse for the ladies' movement. I was asked to-day if I favored the movement. I replied well anything to beat the Devil. Some of the ladies leading the movement in Ohio are among the best educated, the most refined most wealthy, and most pious in the State. They are not fanatics as they have been termed. But don't you commence this warfare on the streets till an earnest sympathy and pity and love for the dealers and his victum prompt you to. Don't commence till you must, compelled by the Spirit of God.

PRAYER MEETINGS TO BE HELD.

A suggestion was then made by Mr. Bane that the ladies gather together at prayer meeting in the different churches and pray for a general outpouring of the Spirit of God. This suggestion was put in the form of a motion and the motion put to vote and carried, when one of the ladies then offered a motion requesting the pastors to bring their congregations together for this purpose.

Mr. Bane then suggested that notices merely be sent to the pastors of the two cities of the action they had taken, and the pastors named would hold the special meetings, or incorporate this temperance movement in the regular meetings for prayer, he felt sure. One of the ladies put this in the form of a motion and it also, was carried.

Another motion was made that a request be sent all the parties in the two cities that they hold a prayer meeting in their various churches on Thursday evening next, and for this special purpose. Carried.

Rev. Mr. Noble, pastor of the church where the meeting was held, was then invited forward to speak, but declined, stating that he so often occupied that position that he wished to hear others speak.

Miss Haller was called upon, but "had nothing special to say."

Mrs. McCandless gave some earnest, pathetic and soul-stirring remarks, relating the sufferings that wives were subjected to by their drunken husbands, and praying for aid in this movement so dear to the heart of God. She was listened to with the closest attention, and the pictures of misery which she painted caused the flow of sympathetic tears from numbers in the audience.

WHAT MRS. HILL HAS TO SAY.

Mrs. Hill, the efficient Secretary of the meeting, then spoke: Ladies and gentlemen—Those of you who know me best, know me to be an earnest temperance woman. I have resolved to fight as long as possible to drive this evil traffic from the land. I too know what it is to suffer. I fully appreciate what it is to belong to a family whose head is a drunkard. I fully know the danger of a fine young man to train in taking a social glass. I have suffered from it and I am therefore determined to fight the evil. When I heard of the movement in Ohio I scarcely sympathized with it. But when it appeared over the country like an epidemic, then I recognized the hand of God in it. When its influence reached Pittsburgh I was fearful. I saw so many difficulties in the way of the ladies. But now I am heart and hand in the movement. I want first, however, to stir up the pastors of the churches. We need their sympathy, their prayers, their aid. I am told the laws of our State differ from those of Ohio. Our enemies tell us we will be arrested, that the laws protect the liquor dealers. But that don't intimidate me. I don't recognize that law because I had no hand in making it. I did hope to see the movement organized this afternoon, but perhaps the time has not yet come. But if we do go out and the men arrest us, I tell you they will have their hands full. If they arrest four or five thousand of the women of Pittsburgh and Allegheny they will have to build another penitentiary. I believe the women have put in their hands to redeem this land from the the terrible evil, and now let us pray and strive to do it.

Mrs. Hill then offered an earnest prayer, after which the audience joined in singing another hymn.

CALLING FOR MEETINGS AT THE OUT STATIONS.

Rev. Mr. Elliott, of the Third M. E. Church, then arose and stated that he represented the western portion of the city. The ladies of the Sixth ward desired that a meeting should be held in their vicinity. They were already holding special meetings, but they desired a general meeting to be held there. He offered his church, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Marion street, for the use of the ladies, and requested that they come there and hold their next meeting.

Mrs. Hill moved that another meeting be held in the central part of the city, in such church as Rev. Mr. Dermitt should select, on Monday afternoon next at 2½ o'clock, prefacing her motion with the statement that she was glad to learn that meetings had been held in the wards, and made five feel more deeper, as every vicinity desired a meeting to be held there; but she did not deem it expedient at this early day to hold the meetings at a point so far distant from other outskirts of the city, as other ladies could not then attend. The motion was carried.

Col. Scott suggested that the ladies appoint a committeee to canvass for funds to defray the expenses of the movement, stating that many ladies and gentlemen too came in the meetings unprepared to contribute, and was informed by the President that such was among the duties of the Executive Committee.

On motion a vote of thanks was returned to the trustees and pastor of the Third Presbyterian church for the use of the room.

A collection was then taken up and those ladies wishing to identify themselves with the movement were requested to come forward and enroll their names. Adjourned.

MARCH TERM OF COURT.

List of Grand and Traverse Jurors Drawn for the Court of Quarter Sessions.

The following Grand and Traverse jurors have been drawn for the March term of the Court of Quarter Sessions, commencing on Monday next:

GRAND JURORS.

Henry Anderson, Sewickley township; Samuel Barkley, Eleventh ward, Pittsburgh; Henry Brantdoover, West Elizabeth borough; Jno. Best, Mifflin township; Robert B. Dickey, Richland township; Patrick Duffey, Scott township; Morris Field, Twelfth ward, Pittsburgh; Henry Furison, Hampton township; Thomas Gatewood, Seventeenth ward, Pittsburgh; George Haslett, Harrison township; John Harper, Moon township; Thomas Kerr, Elizabeth township; John Klepner, Third ward, Pittsburgh; Amos Kelly, Eighth ward, Pittsburgh; Fred. Kaiser, Ninth ward, Pittsburgh; Samuel McCune, Elizabeth borough; Charles McKnight, Sewickley borough; R. E. McCleary, Tenth ward, Pittsburgh; Thomas McGowen, Mifflin township; John Nicholas, East Birmingham; Samuel Neely, Leet township; Cornelius O'Donnell, Ninth ward, Pittsburgh; B. F. Peterson, First ward, Pittsburgh John L. Rhodes, Eighth ward, Pittsburgh.

PETIT JURORS.

A. D. Armstrong, Twenty-first ward, Allegheny; Adam Arrus, Birmingham; Joseph Baker, Ross township; W. G. Bigham, Scott township; Thomas Bennett, Lower St. Clair township; Harvey Boyd, Second ward, Pittsburgh; W. M. Bright, Sharpsburg; David Chambers, Birmingham; John Cregan, Monongahela borough; John Collins, South Pittsburgh township; John Carroll, East Birmingham; A. M. Cameron, Third ward, Allegheny; Thomas S. Calhoun, Fifth ward, Allegheny; G. F. Comley, Third ward, Allegheny; Thomas Dunnell, Eleventh ward, Pittsburgh; Andrew Dorsey, East Birmingham; John E. Davis, Seventh ward, Pittsburgh; Wm. Dunmail, Reserve township, Jacob Doolittle, Robinson township; Fred Evert, First ward, Pittsburgh; John Espy, Upper St. Clair township; Andrew Fife, Elizabeth township; Charles Grassell, Fifth ward, Allegheny; John Grant; Second ward, Allegheny; John A. Gilleland, Fifth ward, Allegheny; James Hughes, Union township; David Harrison, Harrison township; Chas. Hall, Sixth ward, Allegheny; A. H. Havey, Third ward, Allegheny; Frank Jeffry, Seventeenth ward, Pittsburgh; Robert Johnston, Fifth ward, Pittsburgh; S. S. Keys, Fourth ward, Pittsburgh; J. H. Logan, Snowden township; Edwin Lare, Fourth ward, Allegheny; George Murphy, McKeesport; John Miller, Shaler township; Wm. Mellon, Ninth ward, Pittsburgh; Charles McFish, Tenth ward, Pittsburgh; John J. McKelvey, Wilkins township; Hugh McGuire, Fourth ward, Allegheny; Wm. McKenna, Fourth ward, Allegheny; Daniel McBride, Eleventh ward, Pittsburgh; John McCaskey, McClure township; David Patton, Richland township; Edwin Pearce, McCandless township; Henry Pollock, Lincoln township; John Richardson, Thirteenth ward, Pittsburgh; Holland Riddle, Thirteenth ward, Pittsburgh; Archibald Sands, Penn township; Fred. Smith, Tenth ward, Pittsburgh; George Smith, Eighth ward, Pittsburgh; William Shoemaker, Seventh ward, Allegheny; William Stephenson, Ninth ward, Pittsburgh; James Porter, Fourteenth ward, Pittsburgh; James Woods, Fourth ward, Allegheny; Jesse Wells, Third ward, Pittsburgh; Thomas Ward, Twenty-eighth ward, Pittsburgh; William Wilson, Shaler township; Abram Wakefield, Fourth ward, Allegheny.

Mischievous Boys.

William Baker and a boy named McCune yesterday burst open the laboratory door of Prof. J. J. Allises, a chemist residing on Cedar avenue, Allegheny, while he was in the act of preparing chloride of gold. The door struck his instruments, breaking a glass retort and occasioning the loss of some thirty-seven pennyweights of gold. The proprietor estimates his loss at $65 65. An information was made before Alderman D. L. Smith.

Valuable Property for Sale.

By reference to our "For Sale" columns it will be seen that the eligibly located and unidoubtedly valuable property known as the Duquesne Wagon Works (C. Coleman) situated alongside West Park, and near the Soldiers' Monument, in Allegheny, is offered for sale. Intending purchasers should make a note of this. For terms, &c., inquire on premises.

Attempted Suicide.

Between twelve and one o'clock Wednesday night, a colored man named William Ash, residing on Carroll street, Allegheny, attempted suicide by swallowing about three ounces of bed bug poison. Dr. W. W. Cole attended the man, and reported last night that his patient would recover.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

What the Religious Press Say on the Subject.

Now that the preliminary steps are being taken in this city to inaugurate what may be called the woman's war upon the liquor sellers, the public are much interested in everything that may have a bearing upon the movement. The utterances of the religious press of this city, so far as we have been able to collect them, are given below. It will be observed that in the main, the church organs are disposed to favor the experiment—"to give the women a fair fight," as one paper expresses it —but, at the same time, the approval is not unqualified; and doubts are expressed as to the propriety of some of the features of the crusade, and also as to the results being permanent:

[From the Methodist Christian Advocate.]
THE NEW TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

We studied, in putting pencil to paper, whether to write a heading as above, or "The Woman's Temperance Movement" or "Temperance Revival." That remarkable enterprise which has been progressing now for some time, chiefly in Ohio, but spreading into other States, may fitly be characterized as *new* in sundry of its features, and as being also in a signal degree, an exercise of "*Woman's Rights*," if not exactly under the statute law, yet as a kind of appeal to the "Higher Law," both of humanity and of God. It has been objected that it is hardly legal to take possession of a man's house, and use it for prayer, or other religious purposes without his consent, thus interfering with his business and proprietary rights. This is no doubt true as a general rule. But it is also true that, in Ohio at least, every man who is selling liquor to be used on his premises is doing so in defiance of law—his dram-shop is an unlawful establishment; and he has very little ground of complaint, if the women, who are among the greatest sufferers from his unlawful traffic, take a little of the law into their own hands, and with or without his consent, sing him a few hymns, offer up for him a few prayers, and present their respectful "Appeal." * * *

The work has spread to other places, and in many of them with like happy results. That it should be universally successful is more than could reasonably be expected. Much will depend on the judicious conduct of the leaders of the movement in each particular place; and much also on the character of the place itself. A movement of this kind, to be successful, needs to be well sustained by the influential portion of the community in which it is enacted. Where there are good, judicious Christian women as leaders, well supported by the moral sentiment of the community, and prayed for by all Christian people, there is reasonable ground to believe that at least in the smaller country towns such an enterprise may be the most effectual way of cleaning out those sink-holes of iniquity—the dram shops. Under other conditions there may be failure. What will be the permanent results in case of success, will depend very much on the after efforts, activities and watchfulness of the friends of temperance. The tiger may possibly be so tamed, but he will not be apt to show his teeth again when the "revival is over." "Eternal vigilance is the price of" temperance.

[From the United Presbyterian.]
GIVE THE WOMEN A FAIR FIGHT.

The women are pushing on their work against the liquor sellers. Their success has been wonderful in some of the smaller towns of Ohio. They are now at work in some of the cities, and are organizing for work throughout the State. The State convention is to be held in Columbus this week to mature plans for a general campaign all over the State. In all parts of the country there are signs of the coming storm on all loggery-keepers. The thunder of Ohio will soon be reverberating from New England. New York, even, has felt and is moving in the general current. In our own city we have the incipient movement, and ere long we may look for it in force. We have expressed our doubts of some features of this movement, and of some of the effects. But we say, in closing, give the women a fair fight in their noble war against the giant evil. If nothing else results, this awakening and combination of their power, and noble array of it, will do much to create a public opinion that will ultimately make itself felt in social customs and civil enactments that will do much to hedge in, if not extirpate, the evil. In the meantime, let moral suasion, as addressed to the calculation and reason of the drinkers, be vigorously used to strike at the heart of the monster. With all that may be questionable in the new movement, and whatever may be the final result, we still say, God bless the women who are in it, who seek in faith and love to touch the hard hearts and seared consciences of the drunkard-makers, and by prayer and exhortation serve the dread power of heaven against the awful sin and crime.

[From the Presbyterian Banner.]
THE CRUSADE AGAINST LIQUOR.

The women's crusade against liquor selling continues with unabated vigor throughout Ohio, and is passing over into Indiana and other adjoining States. In the meantime a movement of the same kind is said to be maturing in New York, on Long Island, and in New Jersey. Quite a large number of ladies of this city and Allegheny have declared their willingness to engage in the work of closing the saloons here, and as we go to press they are holding a meeting for determining what is best in the present circumstances. The whisky sellers throughout the country are greatly alarmed at the prospect before them; and it is perfectly plain that the present movement cannot be laughed down, and to stop it by legal measures will be most difficult.

The fact that the liquor traffic has been able to oppose hitherto, successfully, argument, appeal, and even the law itself, and that it has prospered on the miseries of humanity, excludes it from all sympathy with the public willing to encourage those who are now engaged in its suppression by this new method, which thus far has been more and more successful than any other plan ever tried. It is perfectly plain that it has in it one element of success, which most of the leaders of temperance operations in later times have overlooked, the crushing of the public sentiment in opposition to the liquor traffic, making it despicable in the eyes of all, as well as most dangerous to the community and destructive to the bodies and souls of its victims.

[From the Weekly Advance.]
A FANATICAL MOVEMENT.

The temperance movement in Ohio, which has spread so rapidly and carried terror into the ranks of King Alcohol, in our opinion is a fanatical movement that must at no distant period react upon the temperance reformation. The gathering of ladies around a saloon singing and praying looks like sacred nonsense. We have no doubt that in the beginning these meetings were conducted in a reasonable manner, but from reports that now reach us it is assuming the appearance of fanaticism. The praying, singing, weeping and exhorting mixed in wild confusion, looks more like some heathen ceremony in the dark ages than the solemn worship of the Deity. It is not safe to make use of the physical forces of religion to knock out the bungs of whisky barrels. It is only a step from the sublime to the ridiculous, and many have taken the leave, or are rapidly reaching, the latter point.

[The *Advance* is not a church paper, but "an independent, non-sectarian religious family journal."—ED. COM.

THE REVISION OF VALUATIONS.

Meeting of the Board Yesterday—Twenty-sixth Ward Property.

The Board of Revisors met again yesterday and proceeded with their labors.

Mr. Strain moved that the assessment in the Fifth ward be reconsidered and that the original assessment of the Fifth avenue be adopted. The motion prevailed.

The election certificate of Alfred P. McWilliams as Revisor of the Nineteenth ward was received. The certificate was signed by the Return Judges and Inspectors instead of the Prothonotary, as required under the new Constitution.

Mr. Lewis thought it would be advisable to have the opinion of the City Solicitor before the new member be qualified. A messenger was dispatched to the City Attorney's office in order to obtain an opinion.

After a brief interval, Mr. Bigelow appeared and gave an opinion that the certificate was invalid, as the returns for ward officers under the new Constitution are required to be canvassed by the court, and a certificate from the Prothonotary would be necessary.

TWENTY-SIXTH WARD EXEMPT PROPERTY.

Mr. J. N. Jarrett, Chairman of the Twenty-sixth ward committee, reported the following beretofore exempt property:

First Regular Baptist church, lot and buildings, $20,000.

St. Mark's Episcopal church and lot, $17,800.

Welsh Congregational church and lot, $10,200.

Gas works, "gas ometer," lots and outbuildings, $80,860.

Engine house, lot, horses, engine, &c., $17,700.

P., V. and C. R. R., 6,500 feet, $12,000.

Pittsburgh and Birmingham Passenger Railroad, $2,280.

Presbyterian Church and lot, $34,240

German Lutheran Church Eleventh and Sidney streets, with lot school house parsonage &c., $45,500.

First Methodist Church, Eleventh and Carson, and lot, $24,000

German Evangelical Church and lot, $27,500.

German Baptist Church, lot and parsonage, $11,200.

Pittsburgh and Ormsby Passenger Railway, 6,500 feet, $45,500.

Mt. Oliver Coal Railroad Company, lot 1,333 yard iron, $12,480.

Public school house and lot, $40,300

Total, $381,510.

Mr. Jarrett also reported proposed assessments per foot front, making the following

INCREASE OF VALUATIONS.

Larkins alley, from $30 to $35, on 20x60 lots. Cary alley, from $25 to $35, on 20x60 lots. Wright's alley, from $25 to $35, on 20x60 lots. For alley, from $25 to $35, on 20x60 lots. Harkin's alley, from $25 to $30, on 20x60 lots.

On motion the report was adopted and the Board adjourned till Monday next at 10 o'clock A. M.

Divorces Granted.

In the Common Pleas, yesterday, decrees were issued divorcing Mary A. Potter from her husband, Harry P. Potter, on the ground of desertion. Also, divorcing Odessa Schooley from her husband, J. M. Schooley, on the ground of cruel and barbarous treatment. In each case the defendants were ordered to pay the costs, and $60 counsel fees.

The New Colonnade Hotel,
Philadelphia, Pa., is one of the largest hotels on the Continent,

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

Official Vote of Pittsburgh and Allegheny.

The Judges of the Court of Common Pleas yesterday completed the labor of computing the returns for city officers of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, under the new election law, and the result is given below. It is proper to explain that the delay was occasioned by the inability of the Court to receive the tally sheets and other papers from a number of the election boards because of a misunderstanding of the requirements of the act. The return of the judges include the vote for Controller of Pittsburgh for both the unexpired term of Mr. McGowan, resigned, and for the full term. As the returns are nearly alike, we do not deem it necessary to give both. In several of the wards the temperance candidates for Treasurer (McGaw), and Controller (Morgan), were voted for interchangably, owing to an error in the getting up of some of the Prohibition party tickets. We do not publish these erroneous votes. Following are the figures:

PITTSBURGH.

WARDS.	MAYOR.		TREASURER.		CONTROLLER.		
	McCarthy, R.	Guthrie, D.	Hepburn, R.	Mayer, R.	Thomson, D.	McGaw, T.	Morgan, T.
1st	388	130	54	230	300	11	213
2d	259	315	12	377	177	3	267
3d	127	141	1	184	119	1	193
4th	170	305	10	199	164	6	301
5th	99	262	1	176	173		193
6th	405	286	4	409	253		423
7th	228	151	13	251	148	4	249
8th	428	151	13	451	124	7	457
9th	259	340	4	346	250		349
10th	146	4	4	156	150	1	154
11th	400	198	63	397	197	3	459
12th, 1 P.	171	169	2	177	164	1	183
12th, 2 P.	109	156	2	107	149	1	163
13th	288	119	27	251	95		345
13th,